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Canada. National Flag, Joint-  
Committee of the Senate and House  
of Commons (SESSION 1945) Commissioned, 1945



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(JOINT COMMITTEE OF THE SENATE AND  
HOUSE OF COMMONS)

Appointed to Consider and Report Upon  
a Suitable Design for a Distinctive

**NATIONAL FLAG  
FOR CANADA**

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AND EVIDENCE**

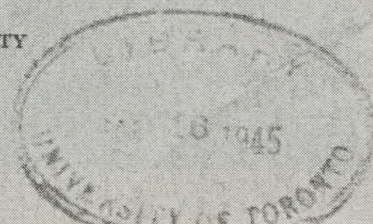
No. 1  
including Final Report

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 1945  
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 4, 1945

**WITNESS:**

Colonel A. F. Duguid, D.S.O., Army Historian, Department of  
National Defence (Army)

OTTAWA  
EDMOND CLOUTIER  
PRINTER TO THE KING'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY  
1945





MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE FOR THE SENATE

Honourable Senator NORMAN P. LAMBERT, *Chairman*,  
and Honourable Senators:

Aseltine, W. M.  
David, L. A.  
Davies, W. R.  
Gershaw, F. W.  
Gouin, L. M.  
Howden, J. P.

Johnston, J. F.  
Léger, A. J.  
Quinn, F. P.  
Robinson, B.  
White, G. V. (C.B.E.)

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE FOR THE HOUSE OF COMMONS

Mr. W. E. HARRIS, M.P., *Chairman*,  
and Messrs:

Beaudoin, L. R.  
Blanchette, J. A.  
Castleden, G. H.  
Emmerson, H. R.  
Gingues, M.  
Gladstone, R. W.  
Hackett, J. T.  
Hansell, E. G.  
Herridge, H. W.  
LaCroix, W.  
Lafontaine, J.  
Macdonnell, J. M.

MacNicol, J. R.  
Martin, Hon. Paul  
Matthews, J. E.  
McCulloch, H. B.  
McIvor, D.  
Reid, T.  
Smith, A. L.  
Stanfield, F. T.  
Stirling, Hon. G.  
Thatcher, H. R.  
Warren, R. M.  
Zaplitny, F.

ANTOINE CHASSÉ,  
*Clerk of the Joint Committee*



## ORDERS OF REFERENCE OF SENATE

WEDNESDAY, November 21, 1945.

*Ordered*, That in the opinion of the Senate it is expedient that Canada possess a distinctive national flag.

That the Senate do unite with the House of Commons in the appointment of a Joint Committee of both Houses to consider and report upon a suitable design for such a flag.

That the Honourable Senators David, Davies, Gershaw, Gouin, Howden, Johnston, Lambert, Léger, McRae, Quinn, Robinson and White be appointed to act on behalf of the Senate as members of the Joint Committee.

That the said Committee have power to send for persons, papers and records.

That a Message be sent to the House of Commons to inform that House accordingly.

*Attest.*

L. C. MOYER,  
*Clerk of the Senate.*

TUESDAY, November 27, 1945.

*Ordered*.—1. That the quorum of the Senate section of the Joint Committee be reduced to five members.

2. That authority be granted to the Senate section of the Joint Committee to sit during sittings of the Senate.

*Attest.*

L. C. MOYER,  
*Clerk of the Senate.*

## ORDERS OF REFERENCE OF HOUSE OF COMMONS

WEDNESDAY, November 14, 1945.

*Resolved*,—That in the opinion of this House, it is expedient that Canada possess a distinctive national flag and that a joint committee of the Senate and the House of Commons be appointed to consider and report upon a suitable design for such a flag;

That Standing Order 65 of the House of Commons be suspended in relation thereto;

That the said Committee have power to send for persons, papers and records to aid in the discharge of its functions; and

That a Message be sent to the Senate to inform their Honours that the House of Commons has appointed this Committee and to request their Honours to appoint members of the Senate to act thereon with the members of the House of Commons as a joint committee of both Houses.

*Attest.*

ARTHUR BEAUCHESNE,  
*Clerk of the House.*



MONDAY, November 19, 1945.

*Ordered*, That Messrs. Beaudoin, Blanchette, Castleden, Emmerson, Gingues Gladstone, Hackett, Hansell, Harris, (*Grey-Bruce*), Herridge, LaCroix, Lafontaine, Macdonnell (*Muskoka-Ontario*), MacNicol, Martin, Matthews (*Brandon*), McCulloch (*Pictou*), McIvor, Reid, Smith (*Calgary West*), Stanfield, Stirling, Thatcher, Warren, Zaplitny, be appointed to act as members of the Joint Committee of both Houses to consider and report upon a suitable design for a distinctive national flag.

That a Message be sent to the Senate to inform Their Honours that the House of Commons has appointed this Committee and to request Their Honours to appoint members of the Senate to act thereon with the members of the House of Commons as a Joint Committee of both Houses.

*Attest.*

ARTHUR BEAUCHESNE,  
*Clerk of the House.*

TUESDAY, November 27, 1945.

*Ordered*,—That the said Committee be authorized to print from day to day, 1000 copies in English and 400 copies in French of its minutes of proceedings and evidence, and that Standing Order 64 be suspended in relation thereto.

*Ordered*,—That the quorum of the House of Commons section of the Joint Committee be reduced from 13 to 10

*Ordered*,—That authority be granted to the House of Commons Section of the Joint Committee to sit while the House is sitting.

*Attest.*

ARTHUR BEAUCHESNE,  
*Clerk of the House.*

## REPORT TO THE SENATE

TUESDAY, November 27, 1945.

The Joint Committee of the Senate and the House of Commons appointed to consider and report upon a suitable design for a distinctive national flag, beg leave to make their first report as follows:

Your Committee recommend:—

1. That the quorum of the Senate section of the Joint Committee be reduced to five members.
2. That authority be granted to the Senate section of the Joint Committee to sit during sittings of the Senate.

All which is respectfully submitted.

N. P. LAMBERT,  
*Chairman.*

*The said Report was adopted on this date.*



# REPORT TO THE HOUSE

TUESDAY, November 27, 1945.

The Special Committee of the Senate and the House of Commons appointed to consider and report upon a suitable design for a distinctive national flag, beg leave to present the following as a

## FIRST REPORT

Your Committee recommend:—

1. That it be authorized to print from day to day, 1,000 copies in English and 400 copies in French of its minutes of proceedings and evidence, and that Standing Order 64 be suspended in relation thereto;

2. That the quorum of the House of Commons section of the Joint Committee be reduced from 13 to 10 members;

3. That authority be granted to the House of Commons section of the Joint Committee to sit while the House is sitting.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

W. E. HARRIS,  
*Chairman.*

*Concurred in November 27, 1945.*

## FINAL REPORT

WEDNESDAY, December 5, 1945.

The Joint Committee of the Senate and the House of Commons appointed to consider and report upon a suitable design for a distinctive national flag, begs leave to present the following as a

## SECOND AND FINAL REPORT

Your Committee has held two meetings in the course of which the question of a suitable design for a distinctive national flag, in accordance with the Order of Reference of the Senate of 21st November, 1945, and the Order of Reference of the House of Commons of 14th November, 1945, was carefully considered.

A considerable number of communications in various forms, such as proposals of designs, resolutions, suggestions, letters, were deposited with the Committee.

Colonel A. F. Duguid, D.S.O., Army Historian of the Department of National Defence (Army) was heard, and this witness delivered an address on the technical and historical aspects of the question under study.

Your Committee feel unable to formulate a specific recommendation in the time at their disposal.



Therefore, your Committee recommend that a similar Joint Committee be set up to continue the study of the question during the next session of parliament.

Your Committee further recommend that during recess of Parliament, some officials be appointed who would be charged with the classification of all the material which was deposited with the present Committee or which might be received in the interval by the Government, so that such material can be presented in an orderly way before the Joint Committee appointed at the next session and thus assist the said Committee in their labours.

A copy of the printed evidence taken is tabled herewith.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

N. P. LAMBERT,  
*Chairman, Senate Section.*

W. E. HARRIS,  
*Chairman, House of Commons Section.*



## MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

TUESDAY, 27th November 1945.

The Joint Committee of the Senate and the House of Commons, appointed to consider and report upon a suitable design for a distinctive national flag for Canada, met this day at 10 o'clock a.m.

*Present:*

*The Senate:* Honourable Senators: Aseltine, David, Gershaw, Howden, Johnston, Lambert, Léger, Quinn, Robinson.

*House of Commons:* Messrs. Beaudoin, Blanchette, Castleden, Emmerson, Gladstone, Hackett, Hansell, Harris (*Grey-Bruce*), Herridge, LaCroix, Lafontaine, Macdonnell, MacNicol, Martin, Matthews (*Brandon*), McCulloch (*Pictou*), McIvor, Reid, Smith (*Calgary West*), Stirling, Thatcher, Warren.

The Clerk of the Committee invited the pleasure of the members to nominate a Chairman for each section of the Senate and House of Commons of the Joint Committee.

Following is a verbatim report of the proceedings of the day.

The CLERK OF THE COMMITTEE: Gentlemen, the first item of business is to select Chairmen. There must be one chairman for the Senate section of the committee and another chairman for the House of Commons section of the committee.

HON. MR. ASELTINE: I move that Senator Lambert be the chairman of the Senate section of this joint committee.

HON. MR. HOWDEN: I second that nomination.

HON. PAUL MARTIN: I propose that Mr. Walter Harris of Grey-Bruce be the representative of the House of Commons and chairman of the House of Commons section of this joint committee.

MR. WARREN: I second that nomination.

The CLERK OF THE COMMITTEE: Are there any other nominations?

It is moved by Senator Aseltine and seconded by Senator Howden that Senator Lambert be appointed chairman of the Senate section of this joint committee. All those in favour? Opposed?

(Carried).

It is further moved by Hon. Mr. Martin that Mr. Walter Harris (Grey-Bruce) be elected as chairman of the House of Commons section of the joint committee and the nomination has been seconded by Mr. Warren. All those in favour? Contrary minded?

(Carried).

I shall respectfully ask the two elected chairmen to take their places.

HON. MR. MARTIN: Messrs. Chairmen: May I propose that, as we have two chairmen, representing the two Houses, that the arrangement be that, today Mr. Harris act as chairman, and at the next meeting, Senator Lambert act as chairman, and so on until the committee meetings are concluded.

(Carried).

Mr. Harris took the chair.



The CHAIRMAN: (Mr. Harris): I thank you for choosing me as Chairman of the House of Commons section of this joint committee. It is an honour to serve on the Canadian Flag Committee and I am glad to carry on with the work. I am also glad that you chose Senator Lambert because his parliamentary experience will make up for my shortcomings in that respect. Now I think we should decide on a quorum for both sections of the committee. There are twenty-five and twelve on the committee. Could I have a motion from an honourable senator as to the quorum for the Senate section of the joint committee?

Hon. Mr. HOWDEN: I move that the Senate quorum be five.

Mr. STERLING: I move that the House of Commons quorum be ten.

The CHAIRMAN: (Mr. Harris): It has been moved by Senator Howden that the Senate quorum consist of five, and it has been moved by Mr. Stirling that the House of Commons quorum consist of ten. All in favour? Contrary minded?

(Carried).

The next business will be the question of printing. I presume it is the desire of the Committee that the records be printed and distributed.

Mr. REID: I would so move.

The CHAIRMAN: (Mr. Harris): The customary numbers I am informed, are five hundred in English and two hundred in French. Is that suitable, in view of the fact that this is a joint committee? All those in favour? Contrary minded?

(Carried).

Now I think we ought to have a motion asking leave of the Senate and of the House to sit while they are in session.

Mr. McIVOR: I move accordingly.

Mr. MACNICOL: Would it not be advisable for us to make up our minds as to how much we contemplate accomplishing in the next few days of the session?

The CHAIRMAN (Mr. Harris): I think we can tell you that in a moment.

Mr. MACNICOL: There is so much to be done in the House and our time is so little to do it. I think it is important that we all be in the House.

The CHAIRMAN (Mr. Harris): All those in favour? Contrary minded?

(Carried.)

Hon. Mr. MARTIN: Mr. Chairman, and gentlemen of the committee: the chairman has asked me just to make a brief statement. There is not very much at this stage I can say in the way of a suggestion; but I would simply like to remark that the office of the Secretary of State has received from various groups throughout the country, almost daily, all sorts of suggestions as to what flag should be adopted by this committee for recommendation to the House of Commons and to the Senate.

Of course, these designs are now all the property of the committee and it is proposed to turn them over to the committee at the earliest moment. I think it would be desirable to do so at the next meeting. This meeting was intended largely as an organization meeting.

Mr. MacNicol, of course, raises the important question as to the duties that lie ahead during the course of the present session. Quite obviously there will not be much chance of doing any work over a protracted period during this session. It may be, however, desirable that we should at least, this session—if I might suggest that—hold at least one formal meeting at which meeting some statement could be made by someone who has had a good deal of experience in regard to the designing of flags. The purpose of such a statement would be to serve as a frame work for our future deliberations. What I have in mind,



specifically, is to suggest to the committee that it might ask Colonel Duguid, who is the war historian and has had considerable experience in this kind of work, to come to the committee and make a preliminary statement which might be of some assistance to us. I make that suggestion to you, and at the same time I would make a brief statement setting forth some other views that might be complementary to those of Colonel Duguid.

I think that up to date—this is more or less accurate—that at the last counting there were something like six hundred and twelve designs that had come into my office. All those letters have been replied to, and the writers have been told that their proposals would be laid before the committee for their consideration. These designs come from all sorts of groups throughout the country, practically every section of the country being represented. A number of people have asked to be allowed to come before the committee when it is established. That correspondence will also be laid before the committee and it will be placed in the hands of the chairman or the secretary right away after the constitution of this meeting. So, I would propose, Mr. Chairman, that we might possibly arrange to have at least one formal meeting during the course of this present session, and that the meeting be taken up in part by a statement along the lines I suggested, together with an actual turning over to the committee of all these designs and the correspondence that has come to us.

MR. MACNICOL: When you suggest Colonel Duguid, though he may be the most qualified person in Canada, I do not know the man. But I do know a Mr. C. H. A. Snider, who is an expert on flags.

HON. MR. MARTIN: Yes, we might ask him too.

MR. MACNICOL: Mr. Snider has been an authority for many years.

HON. MR. MARTIN: I would be very glad to call him as well. My idea in proposing that you call Colonel Duguid was not to have him suggest to us what we ought to do, but just to have him explain or lay out the technique of flag making and that sort of thing. He is a government servant and he would not want to be put in that position. Your friend Mr. Snider could help us too.

MR. HANSELL: I got a few more yesterday morning and I might explain them.

HON. MR. MARTIN: Good!

HON. MR. QUINN: Who is this Mr. Snider?

MR. MACNICOL: Mr. Snider is from Toronto and he is a very famous writer.

MR. REID: I would like to suggest to the committee that it might be advantageous to its members if preparations were made now to provide pictures of the flags of various countries because, if we are going into that subject, not only should we examine them, but we should have them before us officially. That material could probably be procured and made ready for the committee by early next session. I think we should have it before us.

HON. MR. MARTIN: I was talking about this thing to Colonel Duguid yesterday and he made some suggestions. I think he could prepare material and help us in that particular way.

MR. MACNICOL: A flag is based on certain well known theories, principles and facts. Many of the flags that were sent to me are monstrosities. Now, flags are not based on monstrosities. They are based on well known principles. Occasionally, however, you will find a flag that is a monstrosity.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. Harris): This discussion indicates the degree of our labours eventually. No doubt Mr. Snider would make a valuable contribution to the committee if he appeared before us, and no doubt many other people would as well. So, we should decide what procedure we should adopt. And



as the Minister suggested, we might have one formal meeting next week at which we could hear Colonel Duguid. That would be the limit of our endeavours during this session.

There is another feature. The fact that there are six hundred odd designs, might make it desirable for a steering committee to be appointed to lay out the work for us for the next session.

Mr. REID: I think there should be a steering committee because we will be having a great number of persons who will want to appear. It might very well be that a steering committee could consider all such applications of that nature.

Hon. Mr. LAMBERT (Chairman of the Senate Section): At this stage I would like to ask Senator Howden if he would move that the Senate grant permission for the members of the Senate who are members of this joint committee, to sit in committee while the Senate is in session. We have not put through a motion to that effect. The motion we put through was only for the House of Commons.

Hon. Mr. HOWDEN: I should be very pleased, Mr. Chairman, to move that the Senate be asked for permission for us to sit while the Senate is in session.

The CHAIRMAN (Mr. Harris): You have heard the motion. All those in favour? Contrary minded?

(Carried).

Could I have a motion with respect to what the Minister said, a formal meeting next week? Following that, our labours might be postponed until next session?

Mr. HERRIDGE: I so move.

The CHAIRMAN (Mr. Harris): You have heard the motion. All those in favour? Contrary minded?

(Carried).

Mr. GLADSTONE: I would like to raise the question as to whether or not the number of copies we decided to print would be sufficient. We have a total of almost three hundred and fifty members of the Senate and House of Commons and there should be at least two copies per member. I can conceive where I might want to send out half a dozen copies. I think, in view of the paltry dollars involved in the cost of printing and paper perhaps we could exceed the usual number.

Mr. MACNICOL: I agree, Mr. Chairman. There will be all sorts of organizations wanting copies, as well as the people who have written in themselves. This is a matter of importance. I think we should not make an error if we could help it.

Hon. Mr. HOWDEN: I feel that the proceedings of this committee will largely reach the public through the press.

Mr. MACNICOL: I would like to see the number to be printed raised to a thousand.

Hon. Mr. LAMBERT: I was about to say that, in connection with the committee about which you have all heard, the taxation committee in the Senate, it started out with a certain number. They soon found that they had to increase that number. There is some advantage, I think, in first seeing just what the demand will be for your investigations before you undertake to set down an arbitrary number. I should not think that a thousand would be too many, though. We might even want to increase them over that figure. If so, we can always do it by motion.

Mr. GLADSTONE: I should be glad to second Mr. MacNicol's motion.



Mr. MACNICOL: I suggested that the number be a thousand in English and, say, four hundred in French.

Hon. Mr. LAMBERT: Subject to increase, if necessary.

Mr. BEAUDOIN: Is that proportion of English to French definitely established?

Mr. MACNICOL: No. There are always more required in English than there are in French.

The CHAIRMAN (Mr. Harris): I take it that the sense of the committee is that we increase the original five hundred and two hundred to one thousand and four hundred. All those in favour? Opposed?

(Carried).

Now, will somebody move that we appoint a steering committee?

Mr. MACNICOL: Do you think we should have a steering committee for each section, or a joint steering committee, of so many from the Senate and so many from the House of Commons?

The CHAIRMAN (Mr. Harris): It can be a single committee made up of members from both Houses.

Mr. MACNICOL: No, I mean seven, outside of the two chairmen.

The CHAIRMAN (Mr. Harris): The suggestion is that the steering committee consist of the two chairmen, ex-officio, plus seven members with a division of four to the House of Commons and three to the Senate. I am thinking of the committee there rather than of the House.

Hon. Mr. LAMBERT: Five and two would be better I think.

Mr. MACNICOL: The steering committee should be picked by the two chairmen.

The CHAIRMAN (Mr. Harris): Will you move that?

Mr. MACNICOL: I do so move.

The CHAIRMAN (Mr. Harris): You have all heard the motion. All those in favour? Contrary minded?

(Carried).

The CHAIRMAN (Mr. Harris): Do you want the names of the steering committee now?

Mr. MACNICOL: I think we should leave it to the two chairmen to think it over.

Hon. Mr. LAMBERT (Chairman of the Senate Section): Yes, and announce the names at the next meeting, five from the House of Commons and two from the Senate, in addition to the two chairmen.

Hon. Mr. GERSHAW: There is great interest being taken in the flag throughout Canada by a great many organizations. It occurred to me that it might be a suitable move to suggest that any organization be privileged to send in a design with representations by letter to this committee so that it would be generally thought that everyone was privileged to have a part in the choosing of the flag.

Mr. CASTLEDEN: I think it should not only be a privilege but I think they should be invited to do so. I think that all organizations that we could contact should be invited and encouraged to send in their ideas so that the Canadian people themselves may feel that they are choosing their own flag and that this committee is just screening out the ideas.

Mr. REID: Let us get it clear. If we are going to contact organizations we are just running into a mess of trouble. If we ask some organizations, there will be other organizations raising particular cain because they were not contacted.



Mr. BEAUDOIN: Couldn't that subject be left with the steering committee?

The CHAIRMAN (Mr. Harris): I think that would be a good idea. The purpose of the suggestion is very sound. We want as much opportunity as possible to be given to the public to attend our sittings and to make representations. I had it in mind that the Minister would make a more formal statement about publicity at our next formal meeting. Our friends in the press could give publicity to our work. The steering committee could consider more direct methods and report to the next meeting.

Mr. McIVOR: The minds of most people are made up anyway, after the scintillating debate that we had in the Commons and after hearing the honourable member from Davenport. I think we pretty well know the feeling of nearly every section of Canada today on the flag question. To me it is quite clear that we want a flag.

Mr. HANSELL: If there were a general request made to everyone by means of publicity that they were welcome to send in ideas, wouldn't that get away from Mr. Reid's difficulty?

The CHAIRMAN (Mr. Harris): Quite right. Before we adjourn, gentlemen, tentatively, could we have an expression of opinion about next Tuesday for a meeting date?

Mr. MacNICOL: I would agree on Tuesday, 4th December, 1945.

The committee agreed.

The committee adjourned at 10.40 a.m. to meet again at the call of the Chair.

#### Room 429

TUESDAY, December 4, 1945.

The Joint Committee of the Senate and the House of Commons, appointed to consider and report upon a suitable design for a distinctive national flag for Canada, met this day at 4 o'clock, p.m. Honourable Senator Norman P. Lambert, Chairman of the Senate Section, presided.

#### *Present:*

*The Senate:* Honourable Senators Aseltine, David, Davies, Gershaw, Johnston, Lambert, Léger, Quinn, Robinson, White.

*House of Commons:* Messrs. Beaudoin, Blanchette, Castleden, Emmerson, Gingues, Gladstone, Hansell, Harris (*Grey-Bruce*), Herridge, LaCroix, Lafontaine, Macdonnell, MacNicol, Martin, Matthews (*Brandon*), McCulloch (*Pictou*), McIvor, Stanfield, Thatcher, Warren, Zaplitny.

*In attendance:* Colonel A. Fortescue Duguid, D.S.O., Army Historian, Department of National Defence (*Army*).

The Chairman, Honourable Senator Lambert, invited The Secretary of State, The Honourable Paul Martin, to address the Committee, and the Minister made a statement on behalf of the Government.

Thereafter, Colonel A. F. Duguid was called. The witness in his presentation dealt with the technical and historical aspects of the question under study.

At the conclusion of his address Colonel Duguid was thanked by The Honourable Mr. Martin on behalf of the members of the Joint Committee.

The Committee thereupon met in camera to consider its final Report which was unanimously adopted and ordered to be presented to both the Senate and the House of Commons.

At 6.15 o'clock, p.m., the Committee adjourned *sine die*.

ANTOINE CHASSE,

*Clerk of the Joint Committee.*



## MINUTES OF EVIDENCE

TUESDAY, December 4, 1945.

The Joint Special Committee to select a Canadian Flag met this day at 4 o'clock p.m. Hon. Mr. Lambert, Chairman of the Senate section, presided.

The CHAIRMAN: It was suggested at the opening meeting of this committee that the minister, who is with us to-day, as the first order of business would make a statement setting forth what might be regarded as the point of view of the government in connection with the resolution setting up this joint committee. Without further words I should like to call upon Mr. Martin to speak to us now.

Hon. Mr. MARTIN: Mr. Chairman, honourable senators and gentlemen of the committee: it was thought desirable at the first meeting, as the Chairman has said, for a statement to be made on behalf of the government which might appear as a part of the record, and which it is hoped will be in the nature of an objective statement to be followed by a more technical presentation by Colonel Duguid, following the decision of last week that Colonel Duguid appear before the committee.

The resolution, passed by the House of Commons setting up this committee, and standing in the name of the acting prime minister, and spoken to on behalf of the Government by the Minister of Veterans Affairs, was put forward by the government, not as an expression of narrow nationalism, but as an expression of the government's conviction that the time had come when Canada should have a flag of its own.

Canada is today one of the important nations of the world—important far beyond what the number of her population alone would merit. We have, in two wars, borne our full and serious responsibility for the preservation of peace and civilization. In two wars, our fighting men have brought glory to Canada. Now with half the world in ruin, with starvation and chaos besetting the countries of Europe that were once the seat of power and influence, the responsibilities of this country are greater than ever before. For a young nation, Canada has done great things and Canadians have derived a glowing national pride from what Canada has accomplished. We feel that we have great things in common—that we can afford to hold our heads high and be proud of the fact that we are Canadians.

Some may say that this is an invitation to nationalism—a regression to that selfish introversion that has brought war and chaos to the world. We do not agree for a moment. It is not consciousness of community and of national bonds that is dangerous but the perversion and exaggeration of that consciousness. There has been too little, not too much, national pride in this country. We are part of a great commonwealth organization that has been an example to the world, and we have every intention of remaining a part and of helping it on to greater and better things. We hope for much from the new united nations organization, in which we feel that we will play our full and active part. Our gaze is turning more and more outward, and in carrying our responsibilities in the new world we will be better fitted to do our part if we have an essential feeling of internal unity and oneness. That is why, I think, it is important to give greater emphasis to the Canadian aspect of things and why it is desirable that the work of this committee should result in an acceptable and appropriate design.

It will be noted that parliament in passing the resolution setting up this committee has expressed the view that "It is expedient that Canada possess



C. 1870—the blue ensign, defaced by the Canadian coat of arms, was designated for use on Canadian government vessels.

D. 1892—the red ensign with the Canadian coat of arms in the fly was authorized for use by merchant vessels registered in Canada. This was confirmed in the Canada Shipping Act, 1934.

E. 1911—the union jack was officially declared to be the proper flag to be flown officially on land in Canada.

F. 1911—the white ensign was designated to be flown at the stern and the blue ensign with the Canadian coat of arms in the fly to be flown at the jack staff of all vessels of the Royal Canadian Navy.

G. 1924—the red ensign with the Canadian coat of arms in the fly was authorized to be flown "over all premises owned or occupied by the Canadian government abroad."

H. 1924—the present coat of arms was substituted for the old Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick quarterings for use on the fly of all Canadian flags.

Practical difficulties resulting from the lack of a recognized Canadian flag together with the growth of national feeling which accompanied and followed the world war resulted in a post-war expansion of the campaign for a Canadian flag. Various organizations and many individuals made representations to the government and efforts were made to rally public opinion. As a result, in 1925, a committee of civil servants was appointed to consider designs for a national flag. This committee was selected on a purely functional basis but it was later disbanded because of its non-representative character.

Since 1925 there have been a number of resolutions introduced in the House of Commons all of which had as their purpose the creation of a distinctive Canadian flag. Thus on the 25th of May, 1931, and on the 6th of February, 1933, Mr. McIntosh introduced the following motion, "That, in the opinion of this house, a special committee be appointed for the purpose of considering the advisability of adopting a Canadian flag, representing Canada as a whole, and in which the British flag shall occupy the position of honour, thus symbolizing the dominion as an equality partner in the commonwealth of British nations". The motion of 1931 was never put to a vote and the motion of 1933 was withdrawn. On the 19th of February, 1934, the following resolution was introduced by Mr. Dickie, "that in the opinion of this house, a national flag representing the Dominion of Canada should be adopted." This resolution was disposed of by a successful motion to adjourn. On the 23rd of January, 1935, Mr. Dickie again moved "that in the opinion of this house, a national flag representing the Dominion of Canada should be adopted; and that in any design for a Canadian flag the union jack must be conspicuous." This motion was withdrawn without a vote.

In 1938 Mr. McIntosh presented another motion which was never voted on.

The next step to have a distinctive Canadian flag was the resolution setting up this committee, during the present session of parliament.

The reasons for having a distinctive Canadian flag have been discussed in the House of Commons prior to the setting up of this committee. The government suggests to the committee that, in addition to the natural desire of having something symbolic of our national heritage and aspirations, there are other reasons and these it offers for the committee's consideration.

The committee may find it advantageous to draw up brief, detailed specifications for the ideal Canadian flag. These might provide that it be:

1. Easily recognizable, not like any other.
2. Visible at a distance.
3. Characteristic in structure and appropriate.



4. Symbolic of the country and of its position as a sovereign state in the family of nations.
5. Lending itself to a variation for different purposes.

It may be that such specifications will enable the committee to classify and adjudicate on the hundreds of proposed designs which have been received.

The committee undoubtedly will make note of the fact that there are at present for Canada authorized national colours and a national emblem as provided for in the Royal Proclamation of the 21st of November, 1921.

About this Royal Proclamation, and about other technical matters in connection with it, I know that you will shortly derive a great deal of help from the research of Colonel Duguid who is to follow me in making a formal presentation to this committee.

No further stress need, at this moment, be placed on the importance of having certain symbols in our national life. All of us are aware of the great moral use made of national flags by the nations of the world. To this committee has been entrusted the noble responsibility of making a recommendation to parliament of a distinctive national flag for Canada. Our task is not easy but our opportunity is great.

The CHAIRMAN (Hon. Mr. Lambert): Gentlemen, I am sure we are grateful to the minister for the statement he has just given to us. Now, I shall call on Colonel Duguid to present an historical statement in connection with the flag, which he has prepared.

Colonel A. FORTESCUE DUGUID, D.S.O., Royal Canadian Artillery (Official Historian of Canadian Expeditionary Force 1914-1919) called:

Mr. MacNICOL: Mr. Chairman, could we know first what Colonel Duguid's credentials are?

The WITNESS: I am an officer of the Canadian army. I have been in the Canadian permanent force since 1914. I served overseas and in France from 1915 to 1918. I was appointed director of the historical section in 1921, and continued in that appointment until succeeded in October 1945 by an officer from overseas. I am now employed on completing the writing of the history of the Canadian forces in the war of 1914-1919.

The study of heraldry and history are traditional in my family. My father, who fifty years ago was a friend of the Lord Lyon King of Arms in Scotland, instructed me in Scottish heraldry. I have since learned more from my cousin who is the present Lord Lyon. Another cousin has written the history of the British Army. My knowledge of heraldry and of military history and symbolism has been made use of by the Government. I have designed army badges and flags now in use. I was on the committee for the award of Battle Honours for the war of 1914-1919 to be carried on the Colours of Canadian Regiments. I have a knowledge of army flags.

In 1926 I submitted a complete plan for the symbolical mural decoration of the Memorial Chamber in the Parliament Buildings, Ottawa, which, after acceptance by Privy Council on the recommendation of the Chief Architect, superseded the original design. I planned and supervised the execution of the symbolical decoration of the Book of Remembrance in the Memorial Chamber, and I turned its pages for the Governor General at the dedication ceremony.

Mr. MacNICOL: Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN (Hon. Mr. Lambert): Go ahead, please.

The WITNESS: I have been called on to appear before you to-day to place at your disposal any knowledge and experience I may possess as regards heraldry and symbolism in general and in particular the composition, design and use of official flags past and present and their historical relationships.



The subject is wide, and although interested in its varied aspects from boyhood until to-day, I realize that I do not know, and have not covered, half of it. Therefore I have set out my evidence in the form of a lecture under a number of headings, with brief statements on each which cannot be other than incomplete but which may enable you to reply to the suggestions, complaints and questions that you may meet. This method may also raise questions in your own minds which I shall do my best to answer. The headings I would use are these:

- (1) Preliminary Remarks.
- (2) Terms of Reference.
- (3) Meaning of words used by ministers and others.
- (4) Restatement of task.
- (5) Uses of national and other necessary official flags—with instances of necessity.
- (6) Specifications for an ideal national flag of Canada.
- (7) Remarks on dealing with designs submitted—1925 submissions and those received by you.  
Classifying.
- (8) Signalling with flags—preconcerted signals.
- (9) Symbols and symbolism:—
  - (a) In everyday life today.
  - (b) In the use of flags.  
Time and place may alter meaning; time may alter appropriateness—e.g., I have something to say there about the beaver.
- (10) Arms or ensigns armorial:—
 

Method of obtaining and promulgation—patent; copyright; warrant; real property; registration and penalties for infringement of rights or improper use.

Honourable augmentations.

Arrangement.

Scope of warrant—materials used in reproduction.
- (11) The Canadian ensigns armorial—
 

Have we national colours?	Royal
Have we a national symbol?	Commission.
- (12) Authority for national and provincial devices and flags.
- (13) Mistakes, Misunderstandings and misinterpretations.
- (14) Historical review of French and British flags. The fleur-de-lis.
- (15) Types of national flags of yesterday and to-day:—
  - (a) Colours dominant.
  - (b) Device or symbol dominant.
- (16) Methods of construction, especially the British. Necessity for precise description, exact dimensions and proportions.
 

The canton.

The circle.
- (17) Heraldic drawing and artistic presentation.
- (18) Demonstration of the construction of a national flag for Canada in accordance with the most strict specifications:—
  - Type (a) Construction with colours dominant.
  - Type (b) Construction with symbols dominant and colour secondary—
    - Existing flag available.
    - Personal arms in public use.



- (19) Shortcomings in designs.
- (20) Action indicated if the colours and devices assigned to Canada by Royal Proclamation of 21st November, 1921, are considered to be unsatisfactory.
- (21) Selection of new colours.  
Selection of new symbol.  
Colours available.  
Symbols in use by other countries.

I would like to ask, Mr. Chairman, if I may proceed along these lines and if so to suggest that questions be deferred until the end.

(1) *Preliminary Remarks.*

These (indicating mimeographed material being distributed to members of the committee headed, Our National Colours and National Emblem) are copies mostly including the proclamations, which I would like to read in full; two extracts from the *Canada Year Book*; it also includes copies of the Royal Warrants for the coats of arms and armorial bearings of the provinces; a glossary which gives the meaning of some of the heraldic words—which I will explain as I go along. Then there are line drawings of a number of flags, some of them in existence now and some suggested, each of which I have drawn to illustrate some different property or quality or method of making flags, of putting them together, or using flags. The coloured cuts are line drawings of what I have here (displaying 12 coloured flags mounted on grey cardboard) which is a group of 12 flags. They are selected and put together so that I might examine them, so that I may point to a flag, as it were, with a certain characteristic when that flag is under discussion.

Most of what I have to say will be obvious, but much of it hitherto unnoticed, misunderstood, or disregarded. I propose to quote certain important documents and government publications and to make some references for the record and for your future reference and corroboration. In view of the character of some of the evidence that I feel bound to present, I would like to assure you that I am not going to present any brief for any particular flag, and to say that I speak to-day as a Canadian citizen, not as an officer of the Canadian Army, nor as a servant of the Canadian government. Further, I would ask you to bear with me if the examples I may cite are related to Scotland, for that is where I was born and brought up.

(2) *Terms of Reference*

In order that we may all understand exactly what this meeting is for, and that there may be no misunderstanding between us as to the precise meaning of words and phrases, I should like briefly to quote the words used in the terms of reference and in the speeches of ministers and others made recently on the subject. The committee is called upon "to consider and report upon a suitable design for a distinctive Canadian flag."

(3) *Meaning of words used by ministers and others*

The minister proposing the motion used these phrases: "a symbol of unity", "the symbolism of a national flag", "the attributes of a nation", "an appropriate design", and he expressed the hope that you "settle, now and for all, this question of our national flag and symbol".

As to the meaning of individual words: "suitable" means suited to, or very well fitted to the purpose, or appropriate to the occasion. The word "design" means delineation or pattern. The word "distinctive" means distinguishing, characteristic, indicating difference. A reliable dictionary gives this definition of "national flag": A flag bearing the device of the nation. It does not add the obvious extension—"in the national colours". One cannot conceive of a national flag that is not of the national colours.



The word "device" means a thing adapted for a purpose, an emblematic or heraldic design or figure or symbol. "Appropriate" means belonging personally to, peculiarly to, suitable and proper. We may stress that, belonging personally to, appropriate, that is.

"Emblem" means symbol, typical representation, pictorial parable, heraldic device, a token, a sign, a preconcerted signal. A "symbol" is a thing regarded by general consent as naturally typifying or representing or recalling something by possession of analogous qualities by association in fact or thought. I shall have occasion to use strange words from the vocabulary of technical heraldry, which I shall translate as they arise.

(4) *Restatement of task*

These definitions allow of a restatement of the task: "to make a visual signal by means of an appropriate symbol", or, in other words, "to send a message that cannot be misinterpreted or misunderstood".

(5) *Uses of national and other necessary official flags—Instances of necessity*

Flags are used for a number of purposes. Their use for decoration does not, I think, concern us here. They are flown by government representatives, ambassadors, consuls and other representatives of the nation at home or abroad, and particularly at international meetings and gatherings. They are flown from His Majesty's ships, from government vessels, at military stations, and they are flown by ships of the Mercantile Marine. Most nations have different flags for these purposes. In addition there are other flags—on what might be described as a lower level—for defining individual officials, departments and services, such as port authorities, customs, etc.

Instances of the necessity for a national flag have been brought to your attention by a minister of the Crown. May I state two instances from my own experience. In France, in 1917, Sir Arthur Currie thought it appropriate that he, as Commander of the Canadian Army Corps in the field, should fly the national flag of Canada. There was no national flag. He used the Canadian blue ensign, then authorized to be flown from Canadian government vessels. Some months ago, when in Algiers, the wife of the Canadian Ambassador to France mentioned to me that whereas the wives of representatives of all other countries wore the national device of their country at diplomatic gatherings, the wives of Canadian government representatives wore none, because Canada had no national emblem. You will recall other instances from your own experience.

(6) *Specifications for an ideal national flag of Canada*

In any constructive work, a building, a machine, or a national flag, it is helpful to have specifications at the start. The more stringent these are, the fewer are the difficulties that will subsequently arise. May I suggest to you brief specifications, both general and particularized, for the ideal national flag of Canada.

You will notice that five of these are those that the Secretary of State pronounced earlier. I have added others to make it more difficult.

- (1) Easily recognizable; not like any other.
- (2) Visible at a distance.
- (3) Characteristic in structure and appropriate.

You remember the definition of the word appropriate: belonging personally to.

- (4) Symbolic of the history of the country.

That is a paraphrase of what the Secretary of State put. It is really the same thing, but I am more particularly interested in history.

- (5) Unity must be expressed.



- (6) Lending itself to variation for different purposes.

You might become more specific here and particularize.

- (7) All associations with other countries authorized by Royal Proclamation for use by Canada to be represented.

This is a drawing based on the Royal Proclamation. Of course, the Royal Proclamation is the instrument. This is merely an illustration of it done by an artist. When I say "other countries authorized by Royal Proclamation" these are the other countries, England, Scotland, Ireland and France.

*By Hon. Mr. Martin:*

Q. Why do you not explain the Royal Proclamation at this point? You refer to the one of 1921?—A. Just a few pages later, sir.

- (8) No colours or devices not already constitutionally assigned to be used.  
(9) All to be in complete accord with the best heraldic practice and no deviation from recognized principles and practices in the design of flags now in common authorized use.

You might amend them, and add others.

- (7) *Remarks: Dealing with Designs Submitted.* 1925 submissions.

A set of such specifications would enable you to classify and adjudicate upon the hundreds of proposed designs which have been received. I believe that one of the members of this Committee has stated that the designs might be assigned to seven different categories, which is undoubtedly the case, but with specifications such as these, all designs would automatically fall into one of two categories, those that comply with the specifications, and those that do not. From a survey of the submissions to a previous Committee, in 1925, on a Canadian national flag, some 200 in number, this process might be expected to reduce the number of possible designs to fifty or less.

- (8) *Signalling by Flags*

Signalling by coloured flags at sea has been developed to a very high pitch. A set of flags, over fifty, is used by the Royal Navy. The significance of, and message conveyed by, any or all may be changed by arrangement to mean a letter or a complete message.

To illustrate the skipper of a British trawler fishing in the North Sea wishes to communicate with the protective cruiser. He needs only four flags—plain red, plain blue, and plain yellow and the Red Ensign. The cruiser also only needs these four. The trawler hoists the Ensign over yellow, that means "I wish to report a dispute with other fishermen". The cruiser hoists the same meaning "I request the skipper to come on board; I wish to speak to him". And so with the red and the blue flags a whole conversation can be carried on by preconcerted combinations.

The purport of each signal is dependent on who sends it but all messages are perfectly understood since both the sender and the receiver know exactly what each means.

A national flag should be equally specific and unmistakable.

- (9) *Symbols and Symbolism.*

- (a) In everyday life today.  
(b) In the use of flags.

Time and place may alter meaning: time may alter appropriateness—e.g., The Beaver.

A full treatment of this would fill a book. I shall only touch the fringe here and give a few examples of symbols and symbolism in our everyday life today. All these are quite obvious, although many will have escaped your



notice. Indeed, there are those today who are ready to assert that symbols and symbolism and the art of heraldry are obsolete, medieval, and meaningless. Such is far from being the case. I stand here before you today displaying to full view more than a hundred symbols. They all mean something, or they would not be there. Anyone who understands can tell at a glance who I am and what I have been doing during the past thirty years. To those that do not understand they mean nothing. They mean much to me.

Misuse of a symbol may be very expensive. Observance or neglect of a symbol and what it means may be a matter of life and death. To illustrate: if anyone flies the white ensign at sea from a ship other than one of His Majesty's ships, he will be signalled to stop. His ship will be boarded by an officer of the Royal Navy, his name and address will be taken, he will be summoned to appear in court, and he will be fined £500. There is no redress. That will conclude the episode.

The Union Jack is a symbol. We know the principles for which it stands. It is the national flag of all the peoples who own allegiance to our King. On account of what it stands for, on account of what it has stood for in the past six years and the past three hundred years, it has acquired a prestige that is inviolable, a position that is unassailable.

Within our lifetime a million of our countrymen have gone overseas as crusaders in support of these principles. A hundred thousand have given their lives and have been buried under its folds. If symbolism meant nothing this practice would never have been instituted and would not now be followed. There is another very direct and personal contact. We recently read in the press of a man who was a traitor to this flag of ours. He was shot. Another, guilty of the same offence, was condemned to death last week.

Time and place alter the meaning of symbols. In England, five hundred years ago and today, a white rose almost certainly denotes someone or something related to York—a Royal Family, a Regiment. Seen on a signboard in Canada today it refers probably to gasoline. A red rose similarly, in England, would refer to Lancaster or Lancashire, while in a Canadian shop window today it probably refers to tea.

Of symbols on flags, the CROSS in one form or another, is by far the most popular both on national and personal flags. In heraldry it takes a dozen forms. It originated nearly two thousand years ago, but its preponderance in this field dates from the Crusades. Its significance has not altered with time or place. Its popularity, and its continued use on the flags of some nations which have not always adhered to its principles, may be measured by the fact that within the past twenty-five years it has held a place on the national flags of a dozen nations.

Of other symbols, stars are most popular, occurring on the flags of fourteen or more countries.

Many other symbols might be cited, one of which must be dealt with, the Beaver. When the early explorers pushed westwards across Canada or sought the North West Passage following the lure of The Golden Treasure of the Orient—Champlain had several professional miners with him on his expeditions through Ontario who did not find it—they found the beaver, which for centuries proved to be a gold mine of a different sort. It was a typical and appropriate symbol of Canada at that time. Canada was the Land of the Beaver and the Company of Gentlemen Adventurers trading into Hudson's Bay, which once held sway over much of what is now Canada, has four beavers on its coat of arms. The Canadian Pacific Railway, which was known all over Europe in the early years of this century, used it as a symbol on their timetables. A black beaver was displayed on the flag of New York State during the War of Independence. These facts, and the difficulty any painter or sculptor finds in making the beaver look unlike a rat, may have had something to do with the omission



of the beaver from the request of Canada to the King for armorial bearings in 1920, which resulted in a Royal Proclamation which I shall quote later.

The selection of the maple leaf as the national symbol of Canada reflects the transition from the Land of the Beaver to the Land of the Maple. The maple leaf is appropriate in that it is indigenous to most of the provinces, and grows in all of them from coast to coast. In competition some years ago for the finest maple leaf of the year, when the entries were exhibited in Ottawa, the first prize was carried off by British Columbia for a leaf adjudged better than any from Ontario or Quebec, whose provincial floral emblem is a spray of maple leaves.

This maple leaf of ours is well and widely known today, everywhere reminiscent of Canada, having been worn by Canadian soldiers in 1914-1919, and having more recently been placed on the funnels of ships of the Royal Canadian Navy and on war vehicles and on every packing case containing war supplies made in Canada and forwarded by the Department of Munitions and Supply to Russia, China and our other allies.

(10) *Arms or Ensigns Armorial:*

Method of obtaining and Promulgation—

Patent; Copyright; Warrant; Real Property;

Registration and Penalties for infringement or improper use.

Honourable Augmentations

Arrangement.

Scope of Warrant—Materials used in reproduction.

*By Hon. Mr. Martin:*

Q. I do not want to interrupt but I think it is desirable that your story should have sequence. Are you not going to tell how the Royal Proclamation of 1921 came about?—A. This is showing the officers and offices under the British Crown to whom application must be made before a warrant or proclamation is issued. It is in explanation of how arms and ensigns armorial are chosen, requested, assigned and promulgated. After that, I would read the Proclamation verbatim and explain its meaning.

"Arms", "Ensigns Armorial", "Armorial Bearings" and "Heraldic Achievement" are terms all meaning an arrangement or orderly grouping of appropriate symbols assigned for identification of a person, or corporate body, including a private citizen, a company, a city, province or country. The various symbols all have a meaning or significance, and are arranged according to a system established and followed for some 500 years.

The process and practice of selecting, arranging, depicting and describing in words these symbols constitute the science and art of heraldry. In England, Scotland and Ireland there are officials whose duty it is to see that symbols are appropriate and properly displayed, to attend to their registration, to write the necessary descriptions for the patents, warrants and copyrights issued, and to advise the King in armorial and heraldic matters—for all patents of arms are issued in the King's name or on his behalf. In England the officials constitute the College of Heraldry, of which the Garter King of Arms is head; in Scotland the Court of the Lord Lyon is presided over by a government official designated Lord Lyon King of Arms. In Ireland there are the "Ulster Office" and "Ulster King". Other officials include "Heralds" and "Pursuivants" who are "Officers of Arms".

These three offices perform functions similar or akin to those of other government patent or copyright offices or registries, in that they investigate applications for the assignment of symbols comparable to trade marks, and ensure that the patent rights of other holders of "letters patent" and "title deeds" are not infringed. Once assigned and granted, "Arms" are "real property" in the legal



sense, and their misappropriation or unauthorized display is a "real injury" for which the offender can be prosecuted in a court of law—in Scotland, at least.

In the pictorial display of a heraldic achievement, such as that assigned to the Dominion of Canada in the Royal Proclamation of 21 Nov., 1921, the arrangement consists of a central shield having on it the "coat of arms"—(so named because the devices displayed on it were in earlier times embroidered on the actual coat of the owner). But the important part is not the shield itself nor its shape, but the devices, symbols and colours displayed on it according to the verbal description contained in the written patent, or proclamation, which I am going to read. For this is a comprehensive warrant for the use of certain symbols and devices, whether painted on canvas or wood, carved in wood or stone, printed on paper, embossed or stamped in any material, cast or chased in metal, or woven in cloth. Any kind of reproduction in any material is covered by the warrant. This includes flags.

About the shield are grouped the other less important heraldic devices; resting on the shield is the helmet, with its mantling or covering of cloth in the national colours and surmounted by the crest. At either side are the "supporters", usually human or animal figures, which may hold a lance bearing a flag with a device on it. The Imperial Crown above, and a floral wreath, of the flowers assigned, with a motto on a scroll beneath, complete the Arms.

As to the symbols: those depicted on the shield are selected as being the most typical for the ready identification of the person or body authorized to display them. Those selected for Canada are the well-known and long-established devices of England, Scotland, Ireland and Royal France, chosen on account of their association with Canada. The fifth device, occupying the lower third of the shield, is the symbol assigned to Canada by the King at the request of Canada, to be used on all occasions to represent Canada. It is the device of the nation, the national symbol, the emblem of Canada—a symbol of unity; three Canadian maple leaves conjoined on one stem, on a field or background of white.

#### (11) *The Canadian Ensigns Armorial.* Our National Colours and National Emblem.

National colours and emblems, both as to colour and presentation are of the highest importance, for they are the common means of identification and recognition at a distance; they are in fact visual signals. For that reason they should be individually distinctive in colour, arrangement and form. Thus Belgium, as well as Scotland, displays a lion; but the Belgian lion is black with red tongue and claws, and rampant on a field of yellow or gold; consequently the national colours of Belgium are black, yellow and red. Similarly the shield of the United States, with its white stars on blue, and bars of red and white, confirms the national colours red, white and blue.

But what of Canada? Have we not colours? Have we not an emblem?

Twenty-five years ago Canada had neither authorized colours nor national emblem. Up to that time the shield of Canada carried a grouping of provincial coats-of-arms, sometimes four, sometimes nine. The beaver was sometimes used as an emblem, but the two most widely known Canadian companies also used it. The British Royal Arms and the Red Ensign of the Mercantile Marine had to serve for some purposes owing to the absence of anything distinctively Canadian.

At that time the increased sense of individual nationhood, and the strong feeling of advancement from colonial status following the War of 1914-1919, led to action by the government of Canada. A committee of senior officials of the Canadian Government was formed to draw up proposals for national insignia, their recommendation was adopted by the Government, and a formal request was made by Canada to King George V, as King of Canada—for it is



the Sovereign himself who personally makes such assignments within all his dominions.

The King thereupon issued a Royal Proclamation, on 21st November, 1921, by virtue of which the national colours and devices asked for were established and proclaimed to the world as the lawful armorial bearings or national insignia of Canada. This Proclamation, which I shall now read, is in technical heraldic language and somewhat overburdened with a dozen "honourable augmentations" in the shape of devices belonging to England, Scotland, Ireland and Royal France. I shall later clarify it, therefore, by separating and isolating the items in question which appertain to Canada exclusively. The full text of the proclamation is as follows:

BY THE KING

A PROCLAMATION

Declaring His Majesty's Pleasure concerning the Ensigns Armorial of the Dominion of Canada

GEORGE R.I.

WHEREAS we have received a request from The Governor General in Council of Our Dominion of Canada that the Arms or Ensigns Armorial hereinafter described should be assigned to Our said Dominion.

We do hereby, by and with the advice of Our Privy Council, and in exercise of the powers conferred by the first Article of the Union with Ireland Act, 1800, appoint and declare that the arms or ensigns armorial of the Dominion of Canada shall be: Tierced in fesse the first and second divisions containing the quarterly coat following, namely, 1st, Gules three lions passant guardant in pale or. 2nd, Or a lion rampant within a double tressure flory-counter-glozy gules. 3rd, Azures a harp or stringent argent, 4th, Azure three fleurs-de-lis or, and the third division Argent three maple leaves conjoined on one stem proper. And upon a Royal helmet mantled argent doubled gules the Crest, that is to say, On a wreath of the colours argent and gules a lion passant guardant or imperially crowned proper and holding in the dexter paw a maple leaf gules. And for Supporters On the dexter a lion rampant or holding a lance argent, point or, flying therefrom to the dexter the Union Flag, and on the sinister A unicorn argent armed crined and unguled or, gorged with a coronet composed of crosses-patee and fleurs-de-lis a chain affixed thereto reflexed the last, and holding a like lance flying therefrom to the sinister a banner azure charged with three fleurs-de-lis or; the whole ensigned with the Imperial Crown proper and below the shield upon a wreath composed of roses, thistles, shamrocks and lilies a scroll azure inscribed with the motto—A mari usque ad mare, and Our Will and Pleasure further is that the Arms or Ensigns Armorial aforesaid shall be used henceforth, as far as conveniently may be, on all occasions wherein the said Arms or Ensigns Armorial of the Dominion of Canada ought to be used.

Given at Our Court at Buckingham Palace, this twenty-first day of November, in the year of Our Lord One thousand nine hundred and twenty-one, and in the twelfth year of Our Reign.

"GOD SAVE THE KING"

That is the full text, verbatim, it may sound like nonsense, but it enables anyone who understands to draw and colour a picture complete in every detail. It resembles a doctor's prescription, you either understand it, or it is nonsense.



Cleared of confusing terms and items, and written in plain language—with “argent” translated as “white”, and “gules” as “red”—the vital part of the Proclamation would read:

The King, at the request of Canada, assigns to Canada the national colours white and red, and declares that the national emblem of Canada shall be three red maple leaves on one stem, on a white field. These shall be used to represent Canada on all appropriate occasions.

That answers the two questions: “What are our national colours?” and “What is our national emblem”?

(12) *Authority for national and provincial devices and flags*

If you are not familiar with the arms of Canada and what they mean and what they contain, it is not the fault of the Government of Canada, for the text of the Royal Proclamation of 21 Nov. 1921 has been printed verbatim again and again in government publications in both English and French. That is the proclamation I have just read. In 1921 the Department of the Secretary of State issued an explanatory pamphlet of 15 pages printed by the King's Printer with a coloured illustration. A second edition was published in 1923, a third followed, and the fourth in 1937. The Canada Year Book for 1921 has a rendering of the achievement which I show you here. It is a coloured picture of the Ensigns Armorial—which means the devices all assembled in proper order—as a frontispiece, and page 17 gives the following explanations:

EXTRACT FROM THE CANADA YEAR BOOK 1921 PAGE 17:

### THE ARMS OF CANADA.

Armorial bearings owe their existence to the need of providing men with some mark of identification. They originated in the Middle Ages, when few men could read, but when all were trained to distinguish such symbols at a glance. Under these circumstances, the arms of the sovereign became generally identified with the arms of the nation, were emblazoned on shields and were later often incorporated into the national flag. In the case of England, the royal standard bears the Coat of Arms of the Sovereign, while the union jack or national flag is composed of the combination of the red cross of St. George on a white field, borne as their banner by the English from the time of the second crusade, the white cross of St. Andrew on a blue field (Scotland), added in 1707, and the red cross of St. Patrick on a white field (Ireland), added in 1801.

Until 1921, the question of the Arms of Canada remained in an unsatisfactory position. In this country the Royal Arms, in their English form have always been freely used. Soon after Confederation, when a Great Seal was required, a design approved by Royal Warrant of 26 May, 1868, displayed the arms of the four confederated provinces—Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick. This design, though not used for the Great Seal, was gradually adopted as the Arms of Canada. As the number of provinces increased, it became a common practice to add their arms to the original design. This resulted in overloading the shield with a multiplicity of detail, and a Committee, appointed to submit proposals, recommended the adoption of a coat of arms which has been approved by the Government and duly authorized, on November 21, 1921, by the King.

Three considerations were kept in view in determining the “achievement of arms,” i.e., the combination of arms, crest, supporters, and motto, which I have just described and which has now been authorized. These were: first, that Canadians stand to their King in as close a relation as do



any of his subjects elsewhere; secondly, that Canada, an integral part of the British Empire, has emerged from the war a member of the League of Nations; and lastly, that Canada was founded by the men of four different races—French, English, Scottish and Irish—and that Canadians inherit the language, laws, literature and arms of all four mother countries.

The arms are those of England, Scotland, Ireland and France, with a "difference" to mark them as Canadian, namely, on the lower third of the field, a sprig of maple on a silver shield.

The crest is a lion holding in its paw a red maple leaf, a symbol of sacrifice.

Issues of the *Canada Year Book* of recent years also contain information, not only as to the arms of the dominion, but in complete detail as to each province. I refer to the *Canada Year Book* of 1942 opposite page 32 and the issue of 1943-44 opposite pages 40 and 41.

You have copies of that before you, I think.

### PROVINCIAL FLAGS

In this connection I might refer to a statement that has often been made to the effect that Nova Scotia is the only Canadian province that has a flag of its own. This is only a partial truth due to the fact that the governments of other provinces have not seen fit to make use of their authorized devices by placing them in colour on bunting, for a royal warrant granting arms covers the placing of authorized devices on flags. The provincial flags if designed and composed in the manner of some other well known flags, such as that of the United States of America would be handsome and striking, for example Ontario would have a flag of the provincial colours green and gold, a green field with a sprig of three gold maple leaves, and in a canton or upper corner the cross of St. George (an honourable augmentation). New Brunswick would display an ancient galley at sea, with oars, white sail and red flags complete on a golden background, and in a canton one of the golden lions of England on a red field another honourable augmentation. Saskatchewan also green and gold, a green field with three sheaves of golden wheat, and in a canton a red lion on a field of gold.

All these provincial devices may be examined in this building, in the memorial chamber together with many national and civic devices and hundreds of military devices which I arranged in perspective so that the whole forms a history of Canada and an individual memorial to every soldier, sailor and airman who ever served in or for Canada up to 1921. This extensive use of symbols, which I supported by written history and carved pictures, taken together with the decorative devices and emblems which I arranged in the book of remembrance, forms a complete example of the practical application of symbolism.

#### (13) *Mistakes, Misunderstandings and Misinterpretations*

In heraldry, as in other sciences, mistakes are not unknown: mistakes of both omission and commission, and misinterpretations due to oversight or lack of knowledge. These result in duplications and anomalies. May I give you some examples. In the artist's presentation of the ensigns armorial of Canada, which is his interpretation of the royal proclamation, there are several. The proclamation gives explicit direction that the shield shall be tierced—that is, divided into three equal areas—but the artist has divided the shield so that the third division carrying the national symbol of Canada is about one fifth. The proclamation states that the mantling, or cloth helmet covering, is "argent doubled gules" which means "white lined with red" an unusual arrangement in heraldry—but the artist has turned it inside out and made it red lined with



white, which is quite commonplace. The proclamation states that the maple leaves shall be proper, that is, of form and colour as in nature and on a white field—but the artist has painted on a pale green field three leaves that are not “proper” in grouping, shape, or colour. They are hardly recognizable as maple leaves. Maple leaves vary in form for the forty different varieties of maple—there is the soft maple, the Norwegian maple, the Japanese and many others; but surely the only one proper for the emblem of Canada is the hard Canadian sugar or rock maple known botanically as *acer saccharum*.

In the shield in the fly of some of the Canadian red ensigns now flying, the maple leaves of Canada are shown in green—but the device long carried to distinguish the province of Quebec or corroborated by provincial order in council of 9th Dec., 1939, is described as “a sugar-maple sprig with three leaves veined vert”, which is green. So that three green maple leaves is the signal “Province of Quebec”.

I have recently seen a cap badge of the arms of Canada in metal and enamel. In the base of the shield are three maple leaves conjoined on one stem, in gold on a green field. That is the special distinguishing device assigned to the province of Ontario by Royal Warrant of 26th May, 1868. The wording is “vert (i.e. on a green background) a sprig of three leaves of maple, or (i.e. in gold or yellow)”. So that three golden maple leaves have been the proper signal for “province of Ontario” for the past seventy-seven years.

A still more recent instance: you have all seen the service badge worn by those who have served in the armed forces of Canada in the years 1939 to 1945. The badge as first issued carried a device of three maple leaves in red enamel on a white shield with the royal crown above. That is the proper national symbol in the assigned national colours. This badge has been superseded by one in which the maple leaves are black, so that the colours are now silver or white and black, which have been for five centuries the national colours of Prussia.

A notable heraldic lapse occurred in the case of the arms of Nova Scotia, whose present coat dates from about 1625. But in 1868 these arms were overlooked and other arms were assigned by royal proclamation and used as the provincial arms until the original armorial ensigns were restored by a Royal Warrant on 19th June, 1929, a lapse of over sixty years.

Strange liberties have been taken with the ensigns armorial of Canada: on the certificate issued to subscribers to the ninth victory loan, the arms of royal France are shown as red fleurs-de-lis on a white field. On the licence to sell war savings stamps the field of the Irish coat is shown in red, and a Canadian canning company has registered as its trade mark the ensigns armorial of the dominion with the national device gold maple leaves on a red field. Superimposed on the shield is a yellow disc bearing the initials of the company in black. This is not good heraldic practice.

Next I would give you an

(14) *Historical Review of French and British Flags with remarks on the Fleur-de-Lis*

ROYAL ARMS OF FRANCE:

French explorers discovered and opened up seven or eight of the nine provinces.

Here is the historical record of the Provinces, dates and names:

Quebec, Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick, 1534 Cartier.

Nova Scotia, 1535 Cartier, followed by De Monts and Champlain 1604, and Poutrincourt 1610.

Ontario 1611 Brulé, 1613 Champlain, 1670 Dollier and Galinée, 1634 Nicolet, 1640 Chaumonot and Brébeuf, 1641 Raimbault and Jogues.

Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, 1731-1743 La Vérendrye, 1751 de Niverville.



The arms of France were the first heraldic emblem erected in Canada, by Cartier, at the entrance of Gaspé harbour on Friday the twenty-fourth of July, 1534. At Annapolis Royal, then Port Royal, in Nova Scotia to welcome Poutrincourt that same device was, on the 14th Nov., 1606, placed over the gates of the fort. In the Dominion Archives can be seen the actual carving of the Arms of France which was on one of the gates of Quebec on 13th Sept., 1759. It was taken to England and returned to Canada.

If the historic past of Canada is to be symbolized in the national flag of Canada, then, from the heraldic standpoint, it would be proper to incorporate in it this device of royal France, or another more appropriate emblem if such can be found.

I had intended here to review briefly the French and British flags that have been flown in Canada in the past, the flags of royal France and the union flag, or union jack, in various forms; but this not now necessary.

I would like just to make one or two additions to what the secretary of state (Hon. Mr. Martin) has told you. He spoke of the fleur-de-lis coat of arms having been on the British Royal Shield for 400 years; and that it ceased to be the device of France and was not restored to international usage until authorized for Canada. That does not apply, however, to the fleur-de-lis as a single symbol, which appears in many places to-day. You may not have noticed it but I at present am wearing, in plain view, 28 fleur-de-lis. I mean by that that there are two fleurs-de-lis exposed every time the British or Imperial Crown is shown or reproduced anywhere. Neither in Britain, nor in Canada, nor in any other country under the British Crown, can the fleur-de-lis be brushed aside. As has been said, the Union Jack is the flag of all those who own allegiance to our King; it is also the national symbol of Great Britain and as such appears on many official British flags. You may decide to recommend that Canada similarly should have several official flags based on the national symbol, the three red maple leaves.

(15) *Types of national flags of yesterday and to-day*

(a) Colours dominant.

(b) Device or symbol dominant.

National flags are, in their composition and design, of two general categories. Both conform to the essential requirement. In the first category: a flag displaying the national colours and bearing the national device. In the second category: a flag bearing the device of a nation in the national colours.

In the first category, the national colours are set out in a series of bands 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 11, 13, or even 20 in number, with the national device placed centrally or in a compartment or canton in the upper corner next the staff. The bands are sometimes vertical, but more usually horizontal. They may vary in width, the more important being wider. Not only the colours actually assigned as national colours are used, but any other colour occurring in the coat-of-arms may be introduced. So that the national flag of Canada, if designed according to this custom might have wide bands of white and red and narrow bands of the gold in the coats of England, Scotland, Ireland or Royal France, and of the blue in the fields of Ireland and Royal France. In the second category, the colours and device or devices belonging to or assigned to a country are displayed as on the shield, but occupy the whole area of the flag.

Flags of the second category are more readily recognizable than those of the first category. Those of the first category are sometimes very difficult to identify at first glance or on a still day. For example, the closest scrutiny is necessary to read the signal conveyed by a flag having three vertical bars, green, white, red, with a centrally placed national device,—if the device is a red shield with a white cross the signal is "Italian Mercantile Marine". If it is an eagle and snake the signal is "Mexico".



(16) *Methods of Construction—Shapes and Proportions of Flags.*

There have been flags of many shapes and sizes, deep and narrow, square, oblong, tapering, semi-circular and notched in various ways. Some had tails or streamers and some the silhouette or outline of animals. Names, applied to them with different meanings at different times, and in different countries are standard, banner, guidon, gonfalon, jack, pennon, pennant, pedant, ensign; all are flags. To-day almost all national flags are rectangular, Norway, Sweden and Denmark are swallow-tailed exceptions. The proportion of the sides of rectangular flags to-day vary from 1 by 1, to 1 by 2; for example:

International Naval Signal Code flags.....	3 by 4
International Naval Signal Code pennants.....	1 by 3
South Africa .....	2 by 3
Great Britain .....	1 by 1, 4 by 5, 1 by 2
Iceland .....	18 by 25
U.S.A. ....	3 by 5

At this point I would like to call your attention to this display of coloured flags which I have had prepared and mounted on a card for demonstration and comparison.

The first is the Union Flag, or Union Jack, of proportions 4 by 5, and of design as in the King's Colour of British and Canadian regiments.

The second, 2 by 3, has three red maple leaves conjoined on one stem on a white field, the National symbol of the Dominion of Canada assigned by Royal Proclamation of 21 Nov. 1921, as it would appear alone on a flag.

The third is the Union flag, of Admiralty pattern and proportions 1 by 2, with central circular device a seven-pointed golden star with the Imperial crown denoting the King's senior representative in the Commonwealth of Australia, that is, the Governor General.

MR. REID: May I ask about the Union Jack, why the white cross does not go straight through? I have often wondered why the white cross of the Union Jack does not go straight through in a broad band.

THE WITNESS: The ancestor of this Union Jack, when you had England and Scotland only, required only the cross of St. George and the cross of St. Andrew. The cross of St. Andrew is white on a blue field. When Ireland came in it was desirable to make some provision so the cross of St. Patrick was used; and to make a complete blending according to heraldic practice, which we see there, to make a device which was possible of reproduction, the Scottish band of St. Andrew was split and half of it given all the way around the corner to the cross of St. Patrick; so that in the first quarter you have St. Andrew, St. Patrick; then in the next going around clock-wise, you have St. Andrew, St. Patrick—and so on around the quarters, going around clock-wise, not counter clock-wise.

To resume the description of the display of coloured flags before you:

The fourth is the national symbol of Canada, three red maple leaves on a white field, with the Union Jack in a canton, or compartment, next the staff, denoting British association.

The fifth is the national symbol of Canada three red maple leaves on a white field; with the Imperial Crown proper, in a blue canton, or compartment, which would indicate a representative of the British Crown, or a government office, or appointment held from the Crown.

The sixth is a form of the national flag of Canada, displaying the national symbol of the Dominion of Canada in the national colours, three red maple leaves on a white field, with the British Union Jack in a canton next the staff and the three golden fleurs-de-lis of Royal France in a blue circle in the fly,



to denote honourable association as provided in the Royal Proclamation of 21 November, 1921.

The seventh is the white ensign of the Royal Navy.

The eighth shows a possible form of a Canadian white ensign; it is the red cross of St. George on a white field, with the national symbol of Canada, three red maple leaves on one stem, in the first canton.

The ninth is the Canadian blue ensign. A blue field with the Union Jack in the first quarter, and a shield bearing the arms of Canada in the fly. In this it will be noted that the maple leaves are erroneously shown in green. A Privy Council Order has laid down that the area they occupy may not exceed one-forty-eight of the area of the flag.

The tenth is an example of a possible Canadian blue ensign. The field is blue, in the first canton is the national symbol of Canada, three red maple leaves conjoined on a white field. In the fly is a shield bearing the authorized coat of arms of the Province of Prince Edward Island. This might be flown at sea from a vessel belonging to the government of Prince Edward Island.

The eleventh is the merchant flag of the Union of South Africa. It is similar to the well-known Canadian red ensign, but in the fly instead of the Canadian shield is a white circle bearing the shield of the Union of South Africa. It shows the figure of Hope representing Cape of Good Hope; two wildebeesten for Natal; the orange tree of the Orange Free State, and the trek wagon of the Transvaal.

The twelfth and last of this series is an example of a possible Canadian red ensign. The field is red; in a canton next the staff is the national symbol of Canada three red maple leaves, conjoined, on a white field, and in a circle in the centre of the fly is the heraldic device of the City of Victoria, British Columbia, which is the crowned head of Queen Victoria. This flag would denote any Canadian ship registered in Victoria, B.C.

During the French Regime in Canada the French Red Ensign used by the mercantile marine employed a different principle in that the field was red semé, or sprinkled, with golden fleurs-de-lis and in a canton next the staff was the device of the port of registration of the ship.

The suggested examples are in accord with the Royal Proclamation of 21 November, 1921, and also with British practice. The flying of them could be controlled by orders.

I have put together a dossier containing line drawings traced from these twelve coloured flags now before you, with explanatory notes on each, together with copies and extracts from several Government publications. There is a copy here for each member of the Committee, to be distributed now for their convenient reference.

For signalling efficiency, elaborate experiments on visibility and optics have been carried out; one result is that the flags of the international naval signal code are 3 by 4 rectangular and 1 by 3 for pennants.

In the reign of Henry VII of England a "grate stremor" was flown 120 feet long and 24 feet wide; some were 60 yards long.

The trouble taken to ensure good visibility may be illustrated by the tri-colour of France: at first it was red, white and blue in vertical bars of equal width, then changed to blue, white and red in equal widths, and finally after experiments and tests the widths were decreed to be: blue 30, white 33, red 37, in each 100 units of length.

There are, in British practice, certain means of adding information to the basic message conveyed by a flag. Two are of major importance: the canton and the circle.



*Use of the Canton:*

The canton is a means for conveying a secondary message or preconcerted signal, in expansion of the primary or main signal message transmitted by the flag as a whole.

Two or three centuries ago, when the marine flag of France was red, with gold fleurs-de-lis, the canton contained the arms of the port of registration.

In the middle of the 17th century, when the navies of England and Scotland were separate, the English flew a red flag with the cross of St. George in a canton, the Scottish warships flew a red flag, but with the saltire or cross of St. Andrew in the canton to differentiate. Today a British baronet may add to his arms a canton with white field and an emblem, a red right hand. Similarly baronets of Nova Scotia superimpose on their personal coat of arms a canton with the arms of Nova Scotia. This last is illustrated in a line cut of the arms of Weir of Blackwood, on page 7 of a booklet *Notes on the Arms of Nova Scotia* published in 1928. To-day an officer of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem may display, in a canton, the emblem of the Order,—a white maltese cross on a black field. No new or special warrant is necessary to legalize these additions or honourable augmentations.

These instances show that the canton carries an honourable augmentation, expressing highly esteemed association. Nothing in heraldry is interpreted in a derogatory sense: a canton implies not unwilling subservience, but loyal and friendly support or association.

*By Hon. Mr. Quinn:*

Q. Before you go on, I thought you might pursue that statement you made a moment ago. I would like to hear an explanation of it. You stated that Nova Scotia's claim to be the only province that has a distinctive flag is only a half truth. Would you explain what you mean by that? Is it not absolutely true, and does it not go back to 1625?—A. Yes, but what I said was this, and I stand by it, that the only reason that is true is because none of the other provinces have seen fit to exercise their right. That right would permit them to put their arms on cloth, and so they could have had a flag in Ontario 77 years ago.

Q. Could have but did not.—A. No. That is why I say it is a half-truth.

Q. But the fact remains that it is true that Nova Scotia is the only province which has a distinctive flag?—A. And the only reason why that is true is that the others did not see fit to put up flags. They had every right to put up flags. I will now give you a few words on the second item, the use of the circle.

*Use of the circle:*

The circle, disc or roundle placed on a flag provides a means of conveying a subsidiary message or preconcerted signal in expansion of the main or primary signal.

It is very widely employed on British flags. Centrally placed on the Union Jack, with the device of a British country, colony, dependency or province, it serves to make a distinguishing flag for the use of the King's representative in that place.

I would refer back to the third flag of the group already described and now before you which has the Star of Australia as a central device. That is the flag of the Governor General of Australia.

*By Mr. MacNicol:*

Q. May I ask here what is the flag of India which has the Star of India on the centre of the Union Jack?—A. Sir?



Q. What is the significance of the flag for India which has the Star of India on the centre of the Union Jack?—A. That is the flag of the Viceroy of India.

Q. Not the flag of India?—A. It is the flag of the personal representative of His Majesty the King in India, India being designated by the Star of India placed in the centre in precisely the same way as on the flag of the representative of His Majesty the King in Australia.

*By Hon. Mr. Martin:*

Q. There is no Indian flag?—A. I do not know. I have never seen one.

*By Mr. MacNicol:*

Q. In India they designate the flag with the Star of India in the centre of the Union Jack as the Indian flag?—A. I do not know as to that. I have never seen any flag called the national flag of India.

In the central fly of the British blue or red ensign, the emblem of a British colony in a circle means a government or merchant ship from that place. The ninth illustration already described and now before you is the Canadian Blue Ensign. It has a shield of the Canadian Arms in the fly, which means a Canadian Government ship. The eleventh illustration is the red ensign which has the circle in the fly. The circle contains the shield of South Africa. That is the ensign with a device added in the fly. That flag is the merchant flag of the Union of South Africa.

#### (17) *Heraldic Drawing and Artistic Presentation*

Heraldic art, particularly in the layout of flags, demands a curious combination of freedom, precision and imagination and a fine sense of arrangement and the accurate balancing of areas of colours of different optical value. The best effect is often produced by a clean cut and characteristic silhouette, as in a weathercock or stencil.

Emblems, like portraits, are exaggerated in their characteristic features, but not to the point of caricature. Lines between colours must be clean cut, so that they will register on the eye at a distance, but in the best practice colours and emblems are not outlined in black.

May I now give you a demonstration of one way of constructing a national flag of the type that places national colours first and national emblem second.

#### (18) *Demonstration of Construction*

I shall adhere to the strict specifications suggested earlier.

You remember there were nine of them.

Let us start with an area 1 by 2.

Two vertical bars, white and red will not do—that means Poland or the Island of Malta, and also the letter H in the International Signal Code. Two horizontal bars are Finland and Monaco. Three bars, red, white, red, horizontal are Austria, vertical they are Peru. A greater number of alternate bars, horizontal red and white will not do—the Philippines have 5, Liberia has 11, the United States of America once had 20 and now has 13, and uses them vertically also.

*By Mr. MacNicol:*

Q. How many has China?—A. I do not know. In 1910 the Chinese flag was a dragon on a golden field; about 1926 it was five horizontal bars of red, yellow, blue, white, black; later it was red with a blue canton charged with a representation of the sun. I have not seen any very recent reproductions of Chinese flags.



Some sort of checkerboard of white and red might be used—but the Canadian Pacific Ocean Steamships and Chile and Panama use that type, and the International Code for the letter U.

So some sort of diagonal subdivision might do. We have precedent in the Scottish national ensign and in the flags of Brazil, Czechoslovakia and the Philippines. Let us place a white band diagonally across a 1 by 2 red background. Centered on the white we might place the arms of Canada in a shield. To be different we require a distinctive shape of shield. A nearly rectangular shield is used by Austria, Italy and Portugal, an oval is characteristic of Spain, a circle of Germany and Brazil, a straight sided shield with curved base is used by South Africa, and one with an irregular outline similar to that in the Heralds College version of the Arms of Canada is used by Peru. And so you might choose for Canada a long tapering crusader's shield, like the one held by the unicorn at the main entrance of this building. That shape suits the five devices, and symbolizes the four overseas crusades in which over a million Canadian men and women have participated during the past half century. The Imperial Crown might be placed above the shield. That also is in the Royal Proclamation, of 21 November, 1921.

We have yet to include the subsidiary colours occurring in the national coat—blue and gold. The blue might be inserted as a narrow border or fimbriation—which is the heraldic word—along the edges of the white bar. The gold might find place in two narrow bars parallel to the white bar on either side—the heraldic term is "cottised".

To make the flag more distinctive or unusual, the trailing edge or leech might be cut in swallow-tail form, two straight cuts at 45 degrees which would resemble, but not duplicate, Denmark, Norway and Sweden. Moreover this would be appropriate, since the Canadian hard maple leaf is the only leaf in which the five main veins are set at 45 degrees—almost exactly, in every leaf: a remarkable peculiarity, but one which you may not have noticed.

Now the design is complete, and most if not all the stringent specifications have been met.

Now for the benefit of critics let us pull it apart, in the unpleasant but often effective method so much in vogue to-day.

#### (19) *Shortcomings in Designs*

Someone will say that Canadians of other than English, Scottish, Irish or French descent are not represented adequately. The answer is that they are represented by the maple leaves which are made as important as any two of the others together.

Another will protest that The Union Jack is omitted. The answer is that England, Scotland, Ireland and Royal France, and the Imperial Crown, are displayed instead, and convey the same message. But the Union Jack could be placed in canton, and the arms of England, Scotland, Ireland and Royal France omitted, but the three maple leaves, enlarged, remain. The blue edging can be omitted as we now have the blue in the Union Jack. This leaves Royal France unrepresented—unless the objector can be persuaded of an obvious fact—that there are not three but four crosses in the Union Jack: the cross of St. George, the cross of St. Andrew, the cross of St. Patrick, and fourth, the white cross, parallel to and larger than that of St. George which is the cross of St. Louis of France. This Cross of St. Louis is white, and used to be placed on a red, or a blue, or (in the case of French regiments) a parti-coloured background; and it is not uncommon in Canada to-day, on a light blue field.

The placing of one cross directly over another is not good heraldic practice—although, in our present Union Jack, St. George is placed over St. Andrew and St. Patrick. That placement drew a strong protest from the Privy Council of Scotland to the King. The argument was that England, having come under the King of Scotland, should not have its Cross (St. George) placed over that



of Scotland (St. Andrew). That flag controversy was satisfactorily disposed of: in the cause of national unity the Scots pocketed their pride. To follow sound heraldic practice, the Crosses of St. George and St. Louis would have to be combined, by lengthwise division of the arms of the Cross as in the case of St. David and St. Patrick. But that would mean tampering with the Union Jack, and it is not permissible—even if desirable—to tamper with an assigned device.

The chief objection to either of these flags is that they do not lend themselves very readily to variation for different purposes. They do not express Canada in a very loud voice and they do not express unity in a very loud voice either. It must be admitted that they fail to meet this the fifth specification we laid down at the start, and they fall short of the desired perfection.

Another way of overcoming this objection has been found by South Africa. An order might be issued that a national flag without the Union in canton could only be flown when the Union Jack is flown.

There is in existence another flag, referred to by you, Mr. Chairman the other day, which is a form of the national flag of Canada. It is based on the method of making the national symbol dominant by displaying on a white field the national symbol assigned to Canada by Royal Proclamation on 21 Nov., 1921, three maple leaves conjoined on one stem.

The Union Jack is displayed in a canton, the device of Royal France is in a circle in the fly. The message it conveys is unmistakable, "Canada, honourably associated with Britain, honourably associated with Royal France". This flag was flown by the senior commander in the Canadian Army Overseas. The King has seen and expressed approval of it. Being government property it is not copyright or patented. The Royal Warrant of 21 Nov., 1921 covers its construction and its use.

*By Hon. Mr. Martin:*

Q. It has a red maple and not the green?—A. Red, absolutely red.

(20) *Action Indicated if the Colours and Devices Assigned to Canada by Royal Proclamation of 21 Nov., 1921 are Considered to be Unsatisfactory.*

If this Committee finds that the present authorized national colours and national symbol are unsatisfactory, then others will have to be found. The procedure would then be for the Canadian Government to request the King to rescind the Royal Proclamation of 21 Nov., 1921 and to request that he issue a new Proclamation as a warrant for the use of the new colours and the new symbol.

But if the present national colours and national symbol as promulgated in the Royal Proclamation of 21 Nov., 1921 are satisfactory, no new Proclamation or Warrant will be required.

In either case the use and arrangement of the national symbol and other authorized devices, if any, would follow common practice, a group of flags would result, each with its proper significance and each supported by P. C. Orders—and Admiralty Warrants if flown at sea—defining colours, size and proportions, and setting out the circumstances of display and by whom to be flown.

As you are no doubt aware, the constitutional right to assign armorial ensigns throughout all his dominions is vested in the King's person.

That is the reason for the statement in the first paragraph of the proclamation, the reference to the first article of the Union with Ireland Act, 1800. That is the King's authority for authorizing these devices, the constitutional instruction, if you will. Hence the procedure followed in establishing a national flag for Canada is that Canada decides on the desired device, Privy Council makes a recommendation to the King with a request for assignment and promulgation, and the King finally issues a Royal Proclamation.



(21) *Selection of new colours, selection of new symbol*

If new national colours and a new national symbol or device are in contemplation, the following may be noted.

The colours available for selection may be stated as: black, white, purple, dark blue, light blue, green, yellow, orange, red.

There are intermediate shades of some of these colours in certain flags. Admiralty specifications define exact shades, by numbers, in flags for use at sea. The flags of the International Signal Code are a guide to optical values.

Avoidance of adoption of colours and colour combinations already in use by others, and also the placement of colours for good visibility, demand consideration. There are no restrictions.

There is no restriction in the selection of an appropriate emblem or symbol, as evidenced by the fact that British countries carry, among many others, the following: a shield, a miner's pick, a volcano, an orange tree, a pineapple, a white bull, a palm tree, a leopard, a pagoda, a castle, and a bunch of bananas.

In earlier times in England we have a red dragon, a bear holding a ragged staff, a silver greyhound and a dun cow—the last was a royal device.

If exclusive possession by the Dominion of the national symbol in any colour combination would provide a solution, the Province of Ontario and the Province of Quebec might be asked to give it up and use some other symbol. That would also provide a measure of the esteem in which the triple maple leaf symbol is held.

The proportions, and silhouette or outline of the flag are also unrestricted.

(22) *Summary*

I shall not detain you to make a summary of what I have presented. And as to a conclusion you will draw your own conclusions but I shall be pleased to answer any questions you may care to make.

*By Mr. MacNicol:*

Q. I was going to ask Colonel Duguid if he has any description of the flag that King Harold used in the Battle of Hastings, if he had one, and if he has a description of the flag used by William the Conqueror in the Battle of Hastings if he had one.—A. On the Bayeux tapestry, which is supposed to be an authentic pictorial history of that campaign, there are a number of flags which might rather be described as pennons on spears. There are a number of different types. Some are swallowtail. Some have three or four tails. Some have tassels. Some are actually in the silhouette of an animal, presumably a dragon, attached to the staff by the nose and the four paws so that it forms a silhouette when it flies in the wind, but heraldry as an exact science was not established, I think, until the Crusades. Perhaps that is an answer to your question.

Q. I have made a search in the British Museum as far as I could to ascertain what flags the two armies probably had, and I must admit there was not very much there to guide one, but it did say that William had a gonfalon.—A. That, sir, is a flag suspended on a cross bar.

The CHAIRMAN: Are there any other questions?

*By Mr. McIvor:*

Q. I should like to ask a question. As a flag is a symbol, and as Canada is a nation amongst the nations of the Commonwealth, should we not have something on the flag to show that we belong to the Commonwealth and what would that something look like?—A. As of to-day the expression that you require is properly and adequately conveyed by the inclusion of the Union Jack in the upper canton next the staff, as in several of the flags we have already examined



and which are now before you. It is a symbol and a placement universally understood to indicate close association with all the British Commonwealth of nations.

Q. Turn it around a little bit more.—A. The three red maple leaves are the authorized symbol of Canada. The use of the Union Jack is authorized also, and indicates close association with the British Commonwealth of nations, or membership, if you will. It is the same as membership.

*By the Chairman:*

Q. I noticed the other day in a paper a letter written by a naturalist criticizing the conjoined three maple leaves. Does that conform to nature or not?—A. These maple leaves originated in my garden here in Ottawa. I was not satisfied some years ago with the presentation and form of Canadian maple leaves so I made perfectly certain of a sugar maple tree. That, as I say, was growing in my garden. I picked the best looking sprig I could find and pinned it down on a piece of paper. I traced it out and this is the reduction of that tracing. That is precisely three Canadian sugar maple leaves conjoined on one stem proper, as the Proclamation says it must be.

*By Mr. McIvor:*

Q. Do you not think instead of having three small leaves that if you had one large maple leaf that it would be more easily recognized from a distance on the flag?—A. That is a matter of test, but in putting only one maple leaf I suggest you destroy the expression of unity.

Q. There is one advantage in that maple leaf in that it looks a little bit like a shamrock.—A. Sir, I never saw a shamrock that looked like that, nor did you. And I never saw a red shamrock.

Mr. MACNICOL: May I ask when the Secretary of State is going to table the flags for the examination of the committee?

Hon. Mr. MARTIN: They are all tabled now. I think there are perhaps around 1,200.

Mr. MACNICOL: By the time we are through it may be up to a couple of thousand of which we will eliminate perhaps 1,900 the first day.

Mr. HANSELL: There is one other question following that. I believe some of us have flags that have been sent to us. What is the procedure? What do we do with them?

The CHAIRMAN: Turn them over to Mr. Chassé, the secretary. I do not wish to cut off any further questions or discussion but we have before us a draft of a report of the joint committee to both Houses which I think might be distributed and considered. Before we do that I will have to ask those who are not members of the committee to absent themselves and leave the room entirely so as to enable us to consider this report.

Hon. Mr. MARTIN: Mr. Chairman, I am sure I express the thought of the committee in saying that we all appreciate very much the very sincere, able and complete presentation which has just been made to us by Colonel Duguid.

The committee adjourned at 6.15 o'clock p.m.







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SESSION 1946



(JOINT COMMITTEE OF THE SENATE AND  
THE HOUSE OF COMMONS

Appointed to Consider and Report Upon  
a Suitable Design for a Distinctive

NATIONAL FLAG  
FOR CANADA )

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AND EVIDENCE [2 P. 101]

No. 1

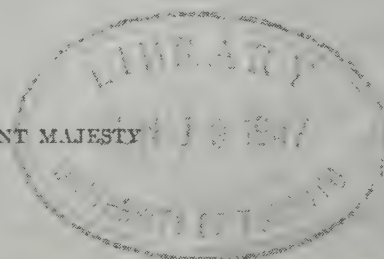
FRIDAY, MARCH 29, 1946

TUESDAY, APRIL 9, 1946

WITNESS:

Major Antoine Chassé, M.B.E., M.C., Clerk of the Joint Committee  
Lieut-Commander Alan B. Beddoe, O.B.E., R.C.N. (R)

OTTAWA  
EDMOND CLOUTIER  
PRINTER TO THE KING'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY  
1946









MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE FOR THE SENATE

Honourable Senator NORMAN P. LAMBERT, *Chairman*,

and Honourable Senators:

Aseltine, W. M.  
David, L. A.  
Davies, W. R.  
Gershaw, F. W.  
Gouin, L. M.  
Howden, J. P.

Johnston, J. F.  
Léger, A. J.  
Quinn, F. P.  
Robinson, B.  
White, G. V. (C.B.E.)

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE FOR THE HOUSE OF COMMONS

Mr. W. E. HARRIS, M.P., *Chairman*,

and Messrs:

Beaudoin, L. R.  
Blanchette, J. A.  
Castleden, G. H.  
Emmerson, H. R.  
Gingues, M.  
Gladstone, R. W.  
Hackett, J. T.  
Hansell, E. G.  
Herridge, H. W.  
LaCroix, W.  
Lafontaine, J.  
Macdonnell, J. M.

MacNicol, J. R.  
Martin, Hon. Paul  
Matthews, J. E.  
McCulloch, H. B.  
McIvor, D.  
Reid, T.  
Smith, A. L.  
Stanfield, F. T.  
Stirling, Hon. G.  
Thatcher, H. R.  
Warren, R. M.  
Zaplitny, F.

ANTOINE CHASSE,  
*Clerk of the Joint Committee*



## ORDERS OF REFERENCE OF THE SENATE

## THE SENATE

WEDNESDAY, 28th March, 1946.

*Ordered.*—That in the opinion of the Senate it is expedient that Canada possess a distinctive national flag.

That the Senate do unite with the House of Commons in the appointment of a Joint Committee of both Houses to consider and report upon a suitable design for such a flag.

That the Honourable Senators Aseltine, David, Davies, Gershaw, Gouin, Howden, Johnston, Lambert, Léger, Quinn, Robinson and White be appointed to act on behalf of the Senate as members of the Joint Committee.

That the said Committee have power to send for persons, papers and records.

That a Message be sent to the House of Commons to inform that House accordingly.

*Attest*

L. C. MOYER,  
*Clerk of the Senate.*

## THE SENATE

TUESDAY, 2nd April, 1946.

*Ordered.*—1. That the quorum of the Senate section of the Joint Committee be reduced to three members.

2. That authority be granted to the Senate section of the Joint Committee to sit during sittings and adjournments of the Senate.

*Attest*

L. C. MOYER,  
*Clerk of the Senate.*

## ORDERS OF REFERENCE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS

## HOUSE OF COMMONS

TUESDAY, 26th March, 1946.

*Resolved.*—That in the opinion of this House, it is expedient that Canada possess a distinctive national flag and that a joint committee of the Senate and the House of Commons be appointed to consider and report upon a suitable design for such a flag;

That Messrs. Beaudoin, Blanchette, Castleden, Emmerson, Gingues, Gladstone, Hackett, Hansell, Harris (Grey-Bruce), Herridge, LaCroix, Lafontaine, Macdonnell (Muskoka-Ontario), MacNicol, Martin, Matthews (Brandon), McCulloch (Pictou), McIvor, Reid, Smith (Calgary West), Stanfield, Stirling, Thatcher, Warren, Zaplitny, be members of such committee on the part of this House;



That Standing Order 65 of the House of Commons be suspended in relation thereto;

That the said committee have power to send for persons, papers and records to aid in the discharge of its functions; to report from time to time; and

That a message be sent to the Senate to inform their Honours that the House of Commons has appointed this committee and to request their Honours to appoint members of the Senate to act thereon with the members of the House of Commons as a joint committee of both Houses.

*Attest*

ARTHUR BEAUCHESNE,  
*Clerk of the House.*

WEDNESDAY, 3rd April, 1946.

*Ordered.*—That the said Committee be authorized to print from day to day 1,500 copies in English and 800 copies in French of its minutes of proceedings and evidence, and that Standing Order 64 be suspended in relation thereto.

*Ordered.*—That the quorum of the House of Commons section of the said Committee be reduced from 13 to 8 members, and that Section 3 of Standing Order 65 be suspended in relation thereto.

*Ordered.*—That authority be granted to the House of Commons section of the said Committee to sit while the House is sitting.

*Attest*

ARTHUR BEAUCHESNE,  
*Clerk of the House.*

## REPORT TO THE SENATE

FRIDAY, 29th March, 1946.

The Joint Committee of the Senate and the House of Commons appointed to consider and report upon a suitable design for a distinctive national flag, beg leave to make their first report, as follows:—

Your Committee recommend:—

1. That the quorum of the Senate section of the Joint Committee be reduced to three members.

2. That authority be granted to the Senate section of the Joint Committee to sit during sittings and adjournments of the Senate.

All which is respectfully submitted.

N. P. LAMBERT  
*Chairman, Senate Section.*

*The said report was presented and adopted on April 2, 1946.*



JOINT COMMITTEE  
REPORT TO THE HOUSE

WEDNESDAY, April 3, 1946.

The Special Committee of the Senate and the House of Commons appointed to consider and report upon a suitable design for a distinctive national flag, beg leave to present the following as a

FIRST REPORT

Your Committee recommend:—

1. That it be authorized to print from day to day, 1,500 copies in English and 800 copies in French of its minutes of proceedings and evidence, and that Standing Order 64 be suspended in relation thereto;
2. That the quorum of the House of Commons section of the Joint Committee be reduced from 13 to 8 members, and that Section 3 of Standing Order 65 be suspended in relation thereto;
3. That authority be granted to the House of Commons section of the Joint Committee to sit while the House is sitting.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

W. E. HARRIS,  
*Chairman,*  
*House of Commons Section.*

*Concurred in on this date.*



## MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

HOUSE OF COMMONS,

ROOM 429,

FRIDAY, 29th March, 1946.

The Joint Committee of the Senate and the House of Commons, appointed to consider and report upon a suitable design for a distinctive national flag for Canada, met this day at 10.30 o'clock a.m. for organization.

*Present*

*The Senate:* Honourable Senators Aseltine, Gershaw, Howden, Johnston, Lambert, Léger, Quinn, Robinson, White.

*The House of Commons:* Messrs. Beaudoin, Castleden, Emmerson, Gladstone, Herridge, LaCroix, Lafontaine, MacNicol, Matthews, McCulloch (*Pictou*), McIvor, Reid, Stirling, Thatcher, Warren, Zaplitny.

The Clerk of the Committee invited nominations for a Chairman for the Senate Section and a Chairman for the House of Commons Section.

Honourable Senator White proposed, seconded by Honourable Senator Robinson, that Honourable Senator N. P. Lambert be elected Chairman for the Senate Section.

Mr. McNicol proposed, seconded by Mr. McIvor, that Mr. W. E. Harris (*Grey-Bruce*), be elected Chairman for the House of Commons Section.

No other proposal having been made the question was put on the two proposals and carried unanimously.

The Clerk thereupon invited Honourable Senator Lambert to take the Chair.

On motion of Honourable Senator Quinn, it was

*Resolved*,—That a recommendation be made to the Senate that the quorum of the Senate Section of the Joint Committee be reduced to three members.

On motion of Honourable Senator Robinson, it was

*Resolved*,—That the Senate be requested to permit the Senate Section of the Joint Committee leave to sit during sittings and adjournments of the Senate.

On motion of Mr. Beaudoin, it was

*Resolved*,—That a recommendation be made to the House to reduce the quorum of the House of Commons Section of the Joint Committee to 8 members.

On motion of Mr. Gladstone, it was

*Resolved*,—That leave be asked from the House of Commons for the House of Commons Section of the Joint Committee to sit while the house is sitting.

The Committee considered the matter of printing of its Minutes of Proceeding and Evidence. It was reported that the number of copies ordered in respect of proceedings of the Joint Committee of the last Session, namely 1,000 in English and 400 in French, had been almost all exhausted. In view of the fact that the volume of designs submitted for the consideration of the Joint Committee had considerably increased since last year it was thought that the demand for reports of the Proceedings and Evidence would accordingly be wider.



After lengthy discussion, on motion of Mr. Gladstone, it was

*Resolved*, That the Committee seek authority to print, from day to day, 1,500 copies in English and 800 in French of its Minutes of Proceedings and Evidence.

The Chairman invited discussion on the question of a Steering or Agenda Committee, whereupon, on motion of Mr. MacNicol, it was

*Resolved*, That the two Chairmen nominate members to act with them as a Steering or Agenda Committee and that such Committee report to the Joint Committee at the next meeting on the procedure to be followed in relation to the material to be considered.

The Chairman announced that a staff would proceed immediately with the preparation of a display of all designs received.

Mr. Reid asked if the suggestion that flags of all nations be displayed had been followed and the Chairman reported that this work was now completed.

At 11.45 o'clock a.m., on motion of Mr. Melvor, the Joint Committee adjourned to meet again at the call of the Chair.

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HOUSE OF COMMONS,

Room 277,

TUESDAY, 9th April, 1946.

The Joint Committee of the Senate and the House of Commons, appointed to consider and report upon a suitable design for a distinctive national flag for Canada, met this day at 4 o'clock p.m. Mr. Walter E. Harris (*Grey-Bruce*), Chairman of the House of Commons section of the Joint Committee, presided.

*Present:*

*The Senate:* Honourable Senators Howden, Johnston, Lambert, Leger, Robinson, White.

*The House of Commons:* Messrs. Beaudoin, Blanchette, Castleden, Emmerson, Gingues, Gladstone, Hansell, Harris (*Grey-Bruce*), Herridge, LaCroix, Lafontaine, MacNicol, Matthews (*Brandon*), McCulloch (*Pictou*), Melvor, Reid, Stanfield, Stirling, Thatcher, Warren.

The Chairman in his opening remarks recalled that the Joint Committee of last year in its final report had recommended that all the material deposited with the Committee at that time, and which might be received by the Government during the recess of Parliament, should be placed in the hands of some officials to be classified and presented in an orderly way to the Joint Committee of this session. In pointing to the display of designs submitted, surrounding the Committee Room, he paid tribute to those who had contributed voluntarily to this work. He then called on the Clerk to give an outline of the nature of the material before the Committee and report on work which had been done during the Recess of Parliament.

Major Antoine Chassé, M.B.E., M.C., Clerk of the Committee was called. The witness enumerated the material before the Committee, was questioned, and retired.

Lieut.-Commander Alan B. Beddoe, O.B.E., R.C.N.(R), was called. The witness explained the process which was adopted for classifying the designs. He tabled a descriptive list of the 22 groups into which they had been divided, and retired.



The Chairman read into the record requests to appear before the Committee by the following: The National Executive Committee of the Imperial Order Daughters of the Empire; la Fédération des Chambres de Commerce des jeunes de la Province de Québec; and Major Jules Goulet, of Montréal. He also read a communication from Mr. Ernest Fosbery, Chairman of the Canadian Arts Reconstruction Committee. He mentioned that Mr. J. Leroy Holman, of Summerside, who has submitted a design, was in the city and had expressed a wish to appear before the Committee.

A lengthy discussion took place as to whether or not the Committee would hear verbal representations. Mr. Reid moved that the Committee do not invite anyone to appear before it to give verbal evidence, and the question being put on the said motion it was, on division, negatived.

Hon. Mr. Stirling then moved, seconded by Mr. Hansell, that the Committee do not at present consider the hearing of evidence and the question having been put on the said motion it was, on division, agreed to.

The Committee then considered methods by which the members could record their individual selections. It was agreed that each member would indicate his selections by writing down in each case the serial number appearing on the design selected, together with the number of the panel upon which such design appears.

The Committee also considered the question of fixing a deadline for receiving submissions and, on the motion of Mr. Beaudoin, it was agreed that no submissions would be received after 30th April, 1946.

Mr. Castleden moved that no limitation be placed on the number of selections a member of the Committee might wish to make in the first screening.

In amendment thereto, Honourable Senator Howden moved that the number of selections be limited to five for each member of the Committee.

And the question having been put on the amendment of Honourable Senator Howden it was, on division, agreed to.

The Committee, thereafter, considered the fixation of a time-limit for the screening of designs now on display along the method adopted earlier. Mr. Reid moved that "in view of the fact that submissions would be received until 30th April, 1946 the members be allowed until 2nd of May, 1946, to record their selections". In amendment thereto, Mr. Beaudoin, moved, seconded by Mr. Gladstone, that the Committee proceed forthwith to the screening of such of the designs as are now on display and that one week from this day, i.e., 16th April, 1946, be the last day for recording selections.

The question having been put on the amendment of Mr. Beaudoin and a tie vote having resulted (Yeas, 10; Nays, 10), the chairman voted in the affirmative and the amendment carried.

It was unanimously agreed (a) that the members will hand in to the Clerk of the Committee their selections—up to a limit of 5—of the designs now on display not later than Wednesday, 17th April, 1946; such of the designs so selected to be displayed for further consideration by the Committee at a later date; (b) that the screening of designs now in the hands of the Clerk but not yet displayed, together with those which may be received from this day up to and including the 30th of April, 1946, be proceeded with after the latter date.

On motion of Mr. McIvor, a unanimous vote of thanks was carried by the Committee to the following persons who contributed to the work of classification, and display of the flag designs: Lieut.-Commander Alan B. Beddoe, O.B.E.,



## JOINT COMMITTEE

R.C.N.(R), Lieut.-Commander C. Anthony Law, D.S.C., R.C.N.(R), Mrs C. Anthony Law, Wren Frances Gage, Mrs Henri Perreault, Miss Celina Courtright, all of Ottawa.

At 5.45 o'clock, p.m., on motion of Honourable Senator Lambert, the Committee adjourned to the call of the Chair.

ANTOINE CHASSÉ,

*Clerk of the Joint Committee.*



## MINUTES OF EVIDENCE

HOUSE OF COMMONS,

April 9, 1946.

The Joint Committee of the Senate and the House of Commons appointed to consider and report upon a suitable design for a distinctive national flag for Canada, met this day at 4.00 o'clock p.m. Mr. W. E. Harris, Joint-Chairman, presided.

The CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, order please.

I think we have so much ahead of us that we will dispense with a lot of introductions, but one or two things should be said. At the end of last session it was decided that some such display as this should be made at the opening of the committee this year, and matters were left in the hands of our efficient clerk, who in turn was given the help of a number of persons through the kindness of the Minister of National Defence. I think we should put on record the names of the persons who have contributed in this work. First I would mention Colonel Duguid, D.S.O., O.B.E., who addressed last year's committee, and who prepared the chart for the classification of flags, which was of great help in the beginning of the work, on the standards for the ground work; and without that I do not suppose we would have been able to have it here to-day. Then we had Lieutenant-Commander Alan B. Beddoe, O.B.E., who already has won fame with his artistic work related to the Book of Remembrance. He has directed the classification work and will explain to you later this afternoon the method used. Under his direction Wren Frances Gage, of the Women's Division of Naval Service, drew the flags of the other nations of the world which are here on display. It was thought that we should have those flags for reference in the course of our dealings with other designs. In addition to them, Commander Beddoe has sketched in pencil a number of designs that were sent in by letter only, the writer thinking that the Canadian Flag should be this or that. We had some voluntary help as well in the work of arranging the display in the persons of Lieut.-Commander C. Anthony Law, D.S.C., and his wife; Mrs. Henri Perrault, who is the daughter of one of our distinguished colleagues on this committee, Mr. Lafontaine, and Miss Celina Courtright. Wren Gage also assisted in this part of the work.

I am sure the committee will wish me to express their thanks to these people for the excellent work done.

I am now going to call on the secretary to let you know the nature of the material before us, and explain the work that has gone on since the last meeting of last year's committee.

Major ANTOINE CHASSE, M.B.E., M.C., Clerk of the Committee, *called:*

The WITNESS: Mr. Chairman, I shall give you a brief outline of the material before the committee. I shall leave it to Lieut.-Commander Beddoe to tell you about his work. I shall ask the indulgence of the committee as I have only rough notes here, but I shall try to make myself as clear as possible.

There are 1,812 designs displayed on panels surrounding the committee-room. Approximately 75 designs were received last night from the Department of National Defence. These were submitted to a committee of that department in 1925. They have not been put up, but will be, later. In addition, about



thirty designs have been received in the mail this morning and this afternoon and they are on the table right in front of you. These also will be placed on display later.

In addition to those there are approximately 52 written suggestions for suitable designs, and Lieut.-Commander Beddoe has translated them into rough sketches, some of them in colour and some not coloured. These will be available to the committee.

Then, there are tabled 6,386 letters which have been received addressed to the committee. These are in support of a design submitted by La Ligue du Drapeau Nationale; or, in English, the League of the National Flag. The point of origin of most of these letters was the province of Quebec, Quebec district, with quite a number from Alberta—in Alberta mainly from Bonnyville—and some from Sherbrooke, Quebec, and some from the Montreal district; and a number from scattered points in other provinces of Canada.

Mr. REID: Are there any from British Columbia?

The WITNESS: I do not recall any, sir; but I will not say there are none. I believe there are a few from British Columbia.

Then, in addition to the letters, there is a list of names, in the neighbourhood of 1,500—I think the exact number is 1,340. These are from people who have sent in or signed petitions saying they would support such a flag—that is the design to which I have just referred.

There are a number of resolutions, letters and petitions favouring the retention of the Union Jack. They are expressed in some cases by terms such as, "no change should be made"; some say, the Union Jack or the present red ensign should be retained. Others are agreeable to a change provided the Union Jack is included in the design. These number about 60, and come from individuals, societies, lodges and national organizations.

There is another group of resolutions which express the desire to exclude the Union Jack and or the fleur-de-lis. These number approximately 50, and again they come from individuals, societies, and so on, in some cases it is merely a list of names of people stating that the flag should be such and such.

Furthermore there are certain requests to appear before the committee. There are only a few of those; La Federation des Chambres de Commerce des Jeunes de la Province de Quebec; the National Executive Committee of the I.O.D.E.; and one from one individual, Major Goulet, of Montreal.

Briefs have been submitted to the committee, without any special request to appear, from Mr. Hugh Savage, of Duncan, B.C., from Major Goulet, of Montreal, (who has asked to appear); from Mr. John Ewart, K.C., of Ottawa; and from Lt.-Colonel T. B. Monk, of Victoria, B.C., etc., etc.

Every design has been given a serial number which appears thereon, and each piece of correspondence describing the said design has been given the number corresponding to the one shown on the design itself. This is available to the committee. Group numbers appearing should be ignored for the reason which Lieut.-Commander Beddoe will explain later.

A catalogue has been prepared showing the name of the sender of the design. Some have sent in as many as twenty, forty, fifty, and even as many as eighty were sent in by one man. These may not appear altogether in the display because of difference in design. In addition, a card has been created for each sender on which appears the number of each of the designs he submitted. As I said, some of these cards contain sixty or eighty names. Unfortunately, owing to the rush of work during the last couple of weeks, the work on the cards got a little behind. However, the cards will be completed as quickly as possible, but the catalogue is right up to date. As I said, there are 1,812 designs displayed. In addition, there are the 75 from the Department of National Defence and approximately 30 more received from individuals in to-days mail, all of which are not yet on display.



Mr. MacNICOL: You say there are 75 more designs in addition to that total of 1,812?

The WITNESS: We have not been able to go through the whole file from National Defence as yet. 34 designs from that file have been given serial numbers and they represent about half of the file. In addition, 30 designs approximately have come in the mail to-day. None of the designs from the Department of National Defence, or the 30 others, are yet displayed.

Mr. McCULLOUGH: Are you still receiving designs?

The WITNESS: Eleven came in the noon mail to-day and more may be expected to-morrow.

Mr. McCULLOUGH: How many?

The WITNESS: Eleven more at noon to-day.

Mr. McCULLOUGH: How long do you intend receiving them?

The WITNESS: That is something for the committee to decide.

Hon. Mr. LAMBERT: Yes, that is for the committee to decide, but there will be some more coming in quite probably.

The CHAIRMAN: Now gentlemen, we will have Lieut-Commander Beddoe explain the classification.

Lieut.-Commander ALAN B. BEDDOE, O.B.E., R.C.N. (R), *called:*

The WITNESS: Mr. Chairman, gentlemen. I would like to express my thanks to the Chairman for his kind remarks about myself and the work that has been done. I would like also to thank Major Chassé for his co-operation.

The WITNESS: May I say, gentlemen, that I have never before tackled any task quite like this, and I do not know of any one who has, so there was no precedent to follow. I should like, however, to pay special tribute to Colonel Duguid for his work in making up the chart to which the Chairman has referred. It was cleverly conceived and was based on the supposition that certain types of designs would be submitted. It was of great help in organizing the initial screenings.

As we went through the hundreds of submissions and began to see what we had, it was found that certain additions and adjustments would have to be made to the chart to meet the needs that existed. Even after these changes had been made, it soon became evident that a different approach was still necessary, and in this connection use of this large committee room was obtained and all the designs were laid out on the floor in groups. In this way the classifying was carried out visually on the basis of what we actually had in hand and not on the basis of a preconceived assumption of what might be there.

In laying out the designs we started with a basic unit: designs containing only one maple leaf. Then came those having three maple leaves (there were none with two), and then those with more than three.

Next we placed together all submissions bearing the Union Jack in canton, with one, then three, then more than three maple leaves. After this came variations on this motif, such as where the Union Jack is used as a base, or where it is elsewhere within the flag area. Following these came designs bearing all or any of the foregoing devices and in addition the fleur-de-lis.

My reason for mentioning only these three devices at this moment is because they are the ones that appear more frequently. The maple leaf occurs the most often; then the Union Jack and next comes the fleur-de-lis, I believe. There are plenty of other devices and symbols however. The nine provinces are suggested in many designs, by nine stars, one for each province; nine maple leaves or nine stripes and other divisions. These have been placed as far as possible in groups containing designs of similar characteristics.



The system for grouping was reduced from an original seventy-six variations or classifications to twenty-two. This was only possible by means of the method of visual screening just described.

To better illustrate this may I read to you what I have written about the method of grouping.

"In classifying the designs no preference has been shown for any particular device or symbol, but rather by the frequency these have occurred and from the visual appearance of each design. In this way, as far as it has been possible to do so, all submissions bearing the same devices or symbols have been grouped together.

"The numerical position in the grouping is not intended to suggest any preference for the designs in the smaller numbers, and it is quite likely that the joint committee will find designs as interesting in the higher panel numbers as in the lower ones.

"The device that appears most often is the maple leaf. Next to this comes the Union Jack, and then the fleur-de-lis. Other devices and symbols occur in good proportion, such as,—the Arms of Canada, the Royal Crown, the beaver; stars representing the 'Great Bear' constellation with 'Polaris', or the nine provinces of the dominion. Stripes, in a variety of colours and nine in number, also suggest the provinces.

"The colours that predominate are red, white or blue, singly or in a combination of any two, or all three. Because of the preponderance of these colours, designs basically, yellow, green or purple, have been placed in a separate group, for visual reasons only."

I will not take up time at this moment to enumerate or define the various classifications, as this is a technical and lengthy matter that might be tedious to listen to and difficult to deal with verbally.

As a means of assisting you in recording your selections of designs, I would now suggest a method that will enable the secretariat to know your precise wishes.

The designs are exhibited on panels which are numbered from 1 to 25. The designs are placed on the panels in order of classifications, starting with group 1, which carries submissions bearing one maple leaf only. They continue by group and numerical sequence around the room to panel 23. Panels 24 and 25 contain designs that are not classified, as they arrived too late to be included in their proper places.

In the centre position of the exhibit has been placed a panel with representations of flags of the nations of the world and of the British Empire. These are for your convenience and reference, and you will be able to compare any submitted design, to note if there is similarity to or infringement upon existing flags.

The suggestion which is put forward about recording your choice is the following: Each design carries a group number and serial number. These appear in this manner: G12—1731D. In recording your selection, ignore the first number (G12) and put down only the second one (1731). The letter following the entry number indicates whether the submission is a drawing; a coloured sketch; a flag, or a written description. For example, if the serial number is 1731D, it means that the submission has been done in the form of a drawing, in pencil or ink without colour. If it has a C following the number, it indicates that it has been done in colour, and so on. In making your selection therefore, all that will be required, from the clerical point, is to record the panel number and the serial number in the following manner: Panel No. 4, Serial No. 231.

I think that is all I have to say, sir.

Mr. HANSELL: I wonder if we could have the classifications included in our hansard?



The CHAIRMAN: I was going to ask Lieut.-Commander Beddoe if he would read them, there are twenty-one or twenty-two classifications.

Hon. Mr. LAMBERT: Have it placed in hansard, as the honourable members suggest.

The CHAIRMAN: All right, gentlemen, we will put it on the record.

## METHOD OF GROUPING DESIGNS

### NUMBER OF SUBMISSIONS IN GROUP

1. One maple leaf only.
2. Three maple leaves only.
3. Over three maple leaves only.
4. Union Jack in Canton, with one maple leaf.
5. Union Jack in Canton, with three or more maple leaves.
6. Any design using Union Jack as base.
7. Union Jack in Canton, with one maple leaf and fleur-de-lis.
8. Union Jack in Canton, with three or more maples leaves and fleur-de-lis.
9. Union Jack elsewhere, with maple leaves and fleur-de-lis.
10. Any design bearing the Arms of Canada.
11. Maple leaves and fleur-de-lis only.
12. Any design with Royal Crown.
13. Union Jack in Canton, with beaver in design.
14. Union Jack in elsewhere, with beaver in design.
15. No Union Jack, but with beaver in design.
16. Union Jack anywhere and with fleur-de-lis.
17. Fleur-de-lis only.
18. Union Jack anywhere, with or without devices contained in Arms of Canada, and in addition other symbols such as stars, wheat, animals (other than beaver), etc.
19. No Union Jack, and as No. 18.
20. Designs having 9 basic divisions representing the 9 Provinces, and in any colours.
21. Designs having base colours other than red, white and/or blue.
22. Designs that do not fall in above classifications.

The CHAIRMAN: Now, we have this request to appear before the committee: the first one is from the Imperial Order of the Daughters of the Empire, and it was addressed to Senator Lambert. It reads:—

DECEMBER 13, 1945.

Senator NORMAN LAMBERT,  
Chairman, National Flag Committee,  
The Senate,  
Ottawa, Ontario.

Dear Sir:—

The National Executive Committee of the Imperial Order Daughters of the Empire are desirous of presenting a brief to the special parliamentary committee considering designs for a proposed new Canadian flag.

We should appreciate it if you could set a time when a representation from our Order may be placed before the joint committee, preferably after the seventh of February. However, if the committee is meeting prior to this time, arrangements could be made to have our representatives present at an earlier date.



May I at this time ask for some official and authentic information on a matter upon which there is much general confusion. What is the definite status of the flag which for years has been pictured in some school texts and referred to as the Canadian flag? I am speaking of the Canadian Red Ensign. Was it ever authorized as an official flag within the dominion, and if so, when.

If Canada is to adopt a distinctive flag, in addition to the Union Jack, how is the supplementary flag to be used? If the Canadian red ensign already has a measure of official status (and it has been sold as merchandise in our shops under the designation of the "Canadian flag" for many years), what is to become of it if a flag of another design is officially adopted?

If the doubt and misunderstanding over such points as these could be clarified by the committee, it would give the general public a much clearer understanding of the efforts to choose and officially adopt a distinctive Canadian flag.

I should very much appreciate hearing from you at your convenience.

Yours very truly,

(Sgd.) MAJORIE T. SMART

(Mrs. L. B. SMART)

*National Secretary.*

Mr. REID: We are dealing just now with the question before the committee regarding whether or not we should hear representations.

The CHAIRMAN: There are others. I should like to put them on the record if you do not mind, Mr. Reid.

The CLERK: I will translate this one which is in French. It is addressed to the secretary of the committee on a national flag.

Dear Sir:—Would it be possible for your committee to receive at a convenient date the president of our federation accompanied by a delegation of two or three other persons? Our organization, which includes sixty-five junior chambers of commerce and approximately ten thousand members in the province of Quebec, would desire to submit officially a project, the one which you have already received. Please accept, dear sir, our anticipated thanks and the assurance of our distinguished sentiments.

That is signed by the chief of the secretariat, Jean Paul Forest. The letter is dated the 6th of April, 1946. It is from the Federation of Junior Chambers of Commerce of the province of Quebec, 14 East St. James St., Montreal.

The CHAIRMAN: The next one is a rather long letter, but I think it should be on the record. It is from Ernest Fosbery, Chairman of the Canadian Arts Reconstruction Committee, and is written on behalf of the Royal Canadian Academy of Arts, the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada, The Sculptors' Society of Canada, the Canadian Society of Painters in Water Colour, and several other similar organizations. It is a letter addressed to the Prime Minister.



571 Manor Road,  
Rockcliffe Park, Ottawa, Ont.  
November 23, 1945.

The Right Honourable W. L. Mackenzie King,  
Prime Minister of Canada,  
Prime Minister's Office,  
House of Parliament, Ottawa,

Dear Mr. PRIME MINISTER,—Pursuant to a unanimous vote of the continuing committee of the Canadian Arts Reconstruction Committee I write you concerning the matter of a national flag for Canada.

The question as to the components of any proposed flag; whether it is to include the Union Jack, the arms of Canada, etc., is of course, a matter of policy and to be decided by parliament.

The designing of the flag, of whatever its component parts, is a separate matter which should engage the best designing ability in Canada.

May I cite two instances to illustrate this point.

During the short reign of Edward VIII the Royal Mint in England commissioned Mr. Edward Johnson, a man who through his work and his writing had done much to further appreciation of good lettering, to make a design of the three letters E.R.I. This he did, but the abrupt ending of the reign prevented use of the design. When a friend of Johnson expressed to him his regret that such a beautiful design could not be used Johnson told him that he had discarded one hundred and fifty designs before he was more or less satisfied with the one he sent the Mint.

Some years ago I made for the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada the model from which are cast the bronze tablets that mark historic sites in Canada. While working at the model I learned that new arms were being designed for Canada and went to the archives hoping to be able to incorporate them in the tablet I was making. The chief archivist, at that time Sir Arthur Doughty, showed me a drawing for the new arms in which the shield was divided into two equal parts with the royal arms above and the maple leaves below. I suggested that a division into thirds, with the royal arms occupying the upper two thirds and the maple leaves the lower one, would make possible a better design as giving room to make the forms in the upper part larger and more "readable" and, also, more in scale with the maple leaves. This suggestion he immediately accepted and asked me if I would make the design. I would have been glad to accept the commission had it not been for previous commitments and a time limit in which the drawing was required which I considered was all too short for such a serious problem of designing.

The first instance shows the care and thought necessary, even by a trained designer, for the achievement of a good design. The second shows a ready solution of a problem that might have been suggested by any experienced designer. Both show that a good design requires time, that good designs are difficult things to make and only to be accomplished satisfactorily by trained men, and that good designing is necessary to weld component parts into a pleasing and satisfactory whole.

All original works in the visual arts are designs, and their makers designers. Some specialize, as do doctors and lawyers, and among our members are some who have specialized in heraldic design.

The Canadian Arts Reconstruction Committee feels that it could be of use to the government in supplying a committee to act in an advisory



## JOINT COMMITTEE

capacity to the House of Commons committee that is to review the designs submitted for the proposed flag. Also that it might assist the Government by putting them in touch with artists who might be commissioned to do the designing when the components of the flag are decided on.

This offer is made with a view to ensuring, as far as is possible, that the new national flag may be of a design in which all Canadians may take pride.

Yours sincerely,

(Sgd) Ernest Fosbery, Chairman,

Canadian Arts Reconstruction Committee

being a committee composed of a liaison of the following associations:—

- The Royal Canadian Academy of Arts;
- The Royal Architectural Institute of Canada;
- The Sculptors' Society of Canada;
- The Canadian Society of Painters in Water Colour;
- The Canadian Society of Painters-Etchers and Engravers;
- The Canadian Group of Painters;
- The Canadian Society of Graphic Arts;
- The Federation of Canadian Artists;
- The Canadian Authors' Association;
- La Société des Écrivains Canadiens;
- The Music Committee;
- The Canadian Society of Landscape Architects and Townplanners;
- The Dominion Drama Festival;
- The Canadian Handicrafts Guild;
- The Canadian Guild of Potters;
- The Arts and Letters Club.

Then there is a letter from Major Goulet of Montreal, including a long brief. He says:—

Enclosed please find a folder representing a project for a national flag, and a conference prepared to be given before the national flag committee in Ottawa.

We have three requests, Major Goulet, the L.O.D.E., and the Federation of Junior Chambers of Commerce of the province of Quebec, to appear before the committee. We also have Mr. Holman from Prince Edward Island whose design is here, and who is present in Ottawa at the moment. He has expressed a wish to address the committee if we so decide. Have you any opinions about hearing these people?

Mr. REID: When the matter came up before the committee in the early stages of our deliberations I at that time was opposed to allowing large delegations to come before this committee. As time has gone on, and up to the present time, my views are still more strongly opposed to allowing representatives to come before this committee. I can visualize this committee sitting here for years listening to pressure groups trying to press their views. I am thinking also of organizations who have the finances and time to come before the committee. I am thinking of provinces like British Columbia three thousand miles away. If we sat there they would want to come before us, but apart from all that I doubt the wisdom of this committee beginning to hear a single soul. Every one of us has received, I suppose, anything from 50 to 500 letters, whether we be members of the Senate or House of Commons, from our constituents. They have all been read carefully and acknowledged, I feel sure. I am wonder-



ing if our work will not be hindered by allowing any delegation to come here. Regarding the man from Prince Edward Island, with all due deference to him, if he were allowed to come here it would certainly open the door for all the others who might want to come before this committee.

Mr. McCULLOCH: Mr. Chairman, I think that people who have taken all the trouble to make designs for this flag should be heard. I feel they should have some say in this matter.

Mr. McIVOR: I would second that.

Mr. REID: I will move an amendment, and we will put it to a vote. I will move an amendment that they do not be heard personally, if I can get a seconder.

Hon. Mr. HOWDEN: I will be glad to second that motion.

The CHAIRMAN: Perhaps you misunderstood. The request to appear only comes from four people, two of whom have submitted designs, and two others who wish to address us. You have a motion.

Mr. CASTLEDEN: Before the motion is put I should like to know whether or not only those four are to be heard or whether if we accept those four we are to accept others?

Mr. McCULLOCH: I would judge that only the four who have made application to be heard would be heard.

Mr. McIVOR: The reason why I seconded the motion was because these people have put a lot of time on this. They represent a lot of public opinion and it is what we are here for. We have the right to send for them.

Mr. REID: May I make myself clear? I am not raising any objection to representations being sent to this committee by any organization or any person. I think we have the right to hear those representations. What I am objecting to is inviting or allowing persons or organizations to come before the committee.

Mr. HANSELL: Mr. Chairman, what is the procedure? I am wondering if this motion is not a little premature. We do not have to decide on this now. It might be that we have quite a little bit of work to do before we start hearing representations, and it may change our minds. What is the procedure from now on?

The CHAIRMAN: I was going to suggest to the committee very shortly when we had disposed of this question that the procedure would be thus, that we would adjourn this meeting, and that between now and a deadline, some time that we might agree on, each member would make a choice of any number he may choose. His judgment would keep it down to a small number, I would think, of those flags now on display. The numbers submitted by each member would be taken off the board and put in a separate group for our next meeting. At that meeting we might have a very small number, perhaps one or two hundred flags requested by the members. Then at that meeting we could decide whether we should actually discard those that did not appear on that list. From then on our job would become perhaps a little more difficult, but the big job of elimination would be done.

As far as hearing these people is concerned you can decide now to hear them or otherwise, but I would think that after you get through the elimination work then you might be in a better position to decide than at the present time. I am sure that Mr. Hansell expressed the opinion of everyone. We have got a long job before us, anyway, and we do want to avoid as much time of the committee being taken up by hearing people as we can, but that was the suggestion I was going to put to you as the next move after this motion was disposed of.

Mr. MATTHEWS: If these individuals or organizations have anything to offer, and I presume they have, I think we should hear them at once because



now is the time that we need their suggestions, but I think at the same time there should be a deadline drawn. We have to limit the number we can hear. Otherwise we would have organizations coming in all the time from everywhere. I think you have got to narrow it down to some reasonable limit, and a certain length of time.

Mr. EMMERSON: I believe it is going to be a very difficult thing first to select whom we are going to hear if we are going to hear anybody, and I have a feeling that we should hear no representatives before this committee because if we do we will be here for a very long while. I am one who is in favour of not hearing any verbal representations made by any individual or any organization, but any written submissions should certainly be received.

Mr. BEAUDOIN: Mr. Chairman, I quite see the point raised by Mr. Reid, but if you should decide to have anybody appear before the committee I think you should announce our decision to have them appear and have it published throughout the country. In all fairness the only way that we could give satisfaction to all parties who might want to appear before this committee would be for the committee to travel from one province to the other. We cannot ask representatives from British Columbia to travel all the way here to appear before this committee. It is obvious that the delegations we would receive would come from either Montreal, Quebec, Toronto, and so on, within easy distance of Ottawa. I think in all fairness, considering what our duty is, we should proceed without having any representations made here personally at all.

The CHAIRMAN: May I take Mr. Holman, for example? His design is over there, and he has a written submission on it as to the points in connection with it, and similarly Major Goulet has a very long brief which is interesting and would be of value to the committee. I do not suppose, as a matter of fact, from reading his letter, that he would do anything but read that submission to the committee when he arrived here. I do not see that any advantage would be gained by taking the time of the committee to do that. Here we have Mr. Hugh Savage, who is a very well known resident of British Columbia. He has seventy-nine pages of material, and I think if he came here he would probably read that brief to you. I feel that can be accomplished just as easily by you perusing that brief yourself rather than having him come here and taking our time to do so. I am in the hands of the committee but I should like to get on with the choice of the flags as soon as we can.

Mr. BLANCHETTE: I would be in favour of the motion that has been proposed by Mr. Reid, and also the sense of the remarks made by Mr. Beaudoin. We are not barring submissions which may be made to this committee. Those submissions can be written. If we invited two or three groups necessarily we would have to allow any other group in the country to make representations which would mean a very great amount of time spent on the hearing of these submissions. We are not barring submissions. We are ready to accept them. That is the sense in which I feel the motion is made. We are ready to accept written submissions. I would be in favour of the motion of Mr. Reid.

Hon. Mr. HOWDEN: I did not lightly second the motion of Mr. Reid. I was a member of the steering committee which decided after substantial argument to recommend to this grosser committee that we do not hear verbal representations from organizations and individuals. I invite you to look around at this galaxy of flags and realize what gross mental confusion they leave in our minds. If on top of that we have the confusion of the verbal submissions of some 500 or 1,000 men, or something of that kind, where are we going to get off at? I cannot see that there is anything to be gained by hearing dozens, at least, if not hundreds, of individuals who will come before us and clarify their presentations verbally. I have no hesitation, and no apology to make for seconding this motion. I think the best thing we can do is to vote on it.



The CHAIRMAN: We started with a motion to hear witnesses, but I wonder if we could have a positive motion from Mr. Reid that we do not hear witnesses.

Mr. REID: My motion was an amendment. There was a motion moved by Mr. McCullough and seconded by Mr. McIvor. To that I moved an amendment, seconded by the Hon. Mr. Howden.

The CHAIRMAN: We have a motion that we hear witnesses and an amendment by Mr. Reid that we do not hear witnesses. Are you ready for the amendment?

Hon. Mr. STIRLING: That is simply a contradiction of the motion. It is not an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN: Let us take the original motion first, that we hear witnesses.

Mr. HANSELL: Just before you put the motion, I am not disagreeing with Mr. Reid's amendment, but I think the choice of a flag is extremely important, and it carries with it the responsibility of choosing something more than a design that may look nice. There is something in heraldry and symbolism. I do not know if there are any people in Canada who are experts on the subject, but it could be very easy for us to adopt some flag, not hearing any representations pro or con on it, only to find out a few years afterwards that we had chosen a symbol which has some sinister historical background to it. We might be sorry for it. I do not know if I make myself clear. I do not know how many of you have looked into the matter of symbolism.

Take for instance, the swastika. We are not going to choose that, of course, but look at it. I do not know how many of you have analysed it or gone into the study of it, but I read a little pamphlet once upon it which led me into a study of it and what it is. It is a crooked cross. It is a broken cross. You will notice, if you look at the Nazi swastika that appears on the board, that it seems to be a sort of pin wheel. It is a cross with four tails on it. If you stuck a pin in the middle of that and gave it a twist the tails coming along behind would mean that it would turn in a certain way. I am not going into a long dissertation on this matter but it is just to explain to you that if it turned the right way it would be known as a dexter form or right-handed form. The Nazi form is the sinister or left-handed form. It has a good deal more to it than that, too. If turned the other way, if it was the dexter form and turned the right way, it would travel the path of the sun, but which I found out, according to certain mythology, indicated that it symbolized the sons of the day. There is a mythological background to it. But somehow or other the Nazis chose the sinister form, the left-handed form.

I can tell you a little story. I happened to be in a town on one occasion, and I was going to give a little bit of a lecture about that. In order to get my crowd, I drew two swastikas on the board. One was the left-handed design and the other was the right-handed design. I went home with a rather distinguished lady who said, "You know, Mr. Hansell, I am glad you are going to talk on that to-night. A few years ago I travelled around the world and when I was in Mexico—or it may have been South America; I am not certain now which it was—I wanted to bring back some curios and I got a brooch. I was told that it represented good luck, that it was a good luck sign. But I never thought it would turn out eventually to be the swastika." I said to her, "That is strange. Do you happen to have that brooch with you?" She said, "I think I can find it." She went to an old trunk and eventually brought this thing out. When I looked at it, it was not the swastika at all, even though she thought it was. It was the swastika turned around the other way. It was the good luck sign.



Mr. REID: It is an old Indian sign.

Mr. HANSELL: Yes, it is an old Indian sign. The funny thing about it, or what I am driving at, is that whoever was responsible for it chose the sinister form, the bad luck form; and it sure was bad luck for the Nazis. If it represents contrary to the sons of the day, then it represents the sons of the night. We do not want to wake up in a few years' time to find that we have got some symbol that represents something sinister or has some sinister background to it. All I am saying is this, that I do not want to entertain a motion that will rule out the appearance of anybody. Perhaps that is not the way Mr. Reid's motion reads, but I do not like to rush into the thing. The flag is going to be used from now till eternity. Whatever we decide on, we want to make sure that it is expressive of the right thing. I do not see that there is any rush in this matter. We are not going to call anyone yet, are we?

The CHAIRMAN: Then is it your suggestion that we merely postpone discussion of whether we should call witnesses or not until another occasion?

Mr. HANSELL: I do not object to that.

Mr. REID: You have a motion before this committee and an amendment. You have to bring the suggestion that Mr. Hansell has made before this committee before you can postpone it.

Mr. BEAUDOIN: Mr. Chairman, would I be right in understanding that after we have gone over these flags, during the period of time we agree upon, and eliminated maybe 1,600 or 1,700 and if there are about 50 left, you might submit those flags to experts?

The CHAIRMAN: That might be our decision.

Mr. BEAUDOIN: So what my honourable friends are afraid of would be corrected.

Mr. McIVOR: Mr. Chairman, I should like to have more time to study these flags. If I were asked to-day to choose ten flags out of all these, I could not do so. I did not study them before, and I think I spent about two hours in here. I do not think I could choose ten flags. I should like to have a little more time, even before anybody comes in to bias my opinion.

Hon. Mr. STIRLING: I do not find myself in support of that motion. Do I understand it to be that we should accept invitations or suggestions from these four people? I do not think we have given it enough consideration. What I fear is that as soon as it goes out that these four are permitted to come, there may be 400 or 1,400 who will want to come, and that certainly would not be a reasonable position for the far-distant citizens to find themselves in. We might find ourselves with a very considerable number from the immediate neighbourhood and others, perhaps as valuable to us, would not be able to afford either the time or money to come. I do not think that Mr. Reid's amendment is a proper amendment in that it is a direct negative. If I may be permitted to do so, I should like to move an amendment that the matter be not now discussed but that it be left over for a future occasion.

Mr. MacNICOL: I second that motion.

Mr. REID: Before that motion is put, would it be in order for the secretary to read the amendment that I proposed to the motion, because some of the members are not quite clear as to my amendment.

Mr. McCULLOCH: In view of the briefs having been sent in, I will withdraw my motion.

(Motion by leave of committee is withdrawn).

The CHAIRMAN: Is that agreeable to everyone now, that we just postpone the decision on this question until some later time?

Mr. MacNICOL: That we do what?



The CHAIRMAN: That we postpone decision as to having people here until some later time?

Some HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

The CHAIRMAN: Are we all agreed on that?

Mr. REID: I am only speaking for myself, but the matter of time is nebulous. We do not know when this question may be put before us again. As far as I am concerned, I should like to say this, although I do not want to impress my views on the committee. I have been giving the matter thought ever since I mentioned it in one of our committee meetings. It was brought up when we met in December. It was brought up before this committee and every member should surely be giving it some thought. It is no good for a member to come along and say, "It is a new thing, a new subject put before the committee", because it was mentioned at our December meeting. I have been giving it thought, and people have asked me the question, "Will we have the right to be heard?" I may just say to the committee that if, later on, the decision is made to hear people, I am going to make a request that we sit in British Columbia and give them a chance.

The CHAIRMAN: I think we all sympathize with the position that Mr. Reid has taken as regards persons in his province finding it inconvenient to come here. But I suggest that perhaps we might leave that for the time being and get on with our other work; and if the necessity of having people present should arise, then we can decide on what terms we would have them, whether we would have others and so on.

Mr. REID: Before you put that question, may I ask this further question, Mr. Chairman: what answer shall I give now, or shall I give a definite answer to the people who are writing in asking if they can appear before this committee? There are others asking how long will we be delayed.

Hon. Mr. LAMBERT: Tell them no.

The CHAIRMAN: I think you can answer that the committee met—assuming it is decided—and decided at the moment we would not ask people to attend but that we did not decide not to have people attend. Are you agreeable to that?

Some Hon. MEMBERS: Carried.

Mr. REID: No. I made a motion.

An Hon. MEMBER: The motion has been withdrawn.

Mr. REID: I will make a new motion if that motion is withdrawn. My amendment would be out of order.

The CHAIRMAN: It was anyway.

Mr. REID: I will make a motion, if I can get a seconder, that this committee do not allow persons to appear personally to make representations.

Hon. Mr. HOWDEN: Do not invite people.

Mr. REID: Do not invite persons to appear before this committee to make personal representations to the committee.

Hon. Mr. STIRLING: That does not deal with what is before you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. LACROIX: You have not invited the four.

The CHAIRMAN: No. Mr. Reid, as I understand you, you have moved that we do not invite anyone to appear before the committee to give verbal evidence.

Mr. REID: That is my motion.

Mr. HANSELL: Mr. Chairman, to me that is too blunt entirely. Suppose the Prime Minister wanted to come?

Mr. McIVOR: Do not invite anybody.



Mr. HANSELL: This applies for everything. I think Mr. Reid's original amendment was better. It did have something about "unless on invitation of the committee".

Hon. Mr. HOWDEN: You have been suggesting that the matter be left open, Mr. Chairman. By putting the motion that Mr. Reid has made, that we do not invite people to come, the matter is still open because it is not blocked.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

The CHAIRMAN: Does anyone else want to speak on the motion? If not, you have heard the motion of Mr. Reid. Are you in favour of it?

Mr. McIVOR: What is the motion?

The CHAIRMAN: That we do not invite anyone to attend to give evidence before the committee.

Mr. GLADSTONE: There was a previous motion by Mr. Stirling.

The CHAIRMAN: I understood it would be dropped if the original motion was.

Hon. Mr. STIRLING: I am afraid it would, but I wish it would not.

Mr. HANSELL: The motion means that you cannot call anyone here?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

The CHAIRMAN: Are you ready for the question?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

(The motion was negatived on division.)

The CHAIRMAN: Now, gentlemen, you heard my suggestion a few minutes ago as to the method we should adopt in approaching the problem.

Hon. Mr. STIRLING: If I may interrupt you just there, Mr. Chairman, may I ask where we stand now, on that motion that passed?

The CHAIRMAN: We stand at the point at which we opened the meeting. I would say. We have had a discussion about the matter. We have voted down a motion, but we have not made a positive decision about anything, and the matter just rests at the present moment; the committee can do anything they like about it, but because we have not any concert on the thing we are not doing anything for the time being. In other words, we do not do anything until we decide otherwise.

Mr. REID: In other words, there is a victory for both sides.

The CHAIRMAN: Yes.

Hon. Mr. STIRLING: Would you accept another motion on the subject, Mr. Chairman?

The CHAIRMAN: Certainly.

Hon. Mr. STIRLING: That we do not at present deal with the question of personal representations before the committee.

Mr. HANSELL: I will second that motion.

The CHAIRMAN: You have heard the motion. All in favour of it?

Mr. MACNICOL: We have not heard it. What was it?

Hon. Mr. LAMBERT: That we do not at present consider the hearing of evidence before this committee.

The CHAIRMAN: Verbal evidence.

Mr. REID: You mean personal evidence?

Hon. Mr. STIRLING: Personal evidence.

The CHAIRMAN: All in favour of the motion.

(Motion agreed to on division.)



The CHAIRMAN: Now, gentlemen, you heard my suggestion a while ago as to the next sitting for making a choice. It was my suggestion that the members now go about the job that they were chosen for, to choose one or several of these flags, and that you should write down on a piece of note-paper the number—that is the panel number and the serial number of the flag,—of those that you think would be acceptable; not that you necessarily advocate any particular one you choose, but those that are on your list are the ones that you feel should be considered at a later date.

Hon. Mr. LEGER: Is that limited to any number?

The CHAIRMAN: We will come to that in a moment.

Mr. REID: I do not suppose you will be wanting those submitted before Easter, Mr. Chairman?

The CHAIRMAN: Mr. Reid, I was certainly hoping we would have them very quickly.

Mr. REID: I just heard a member a few minutes ago saying that he could not choose a flag, that he wanted time. I am speaking on his behalf.

The CHAIRMAN: I am sure he can look after himself when it comes to talking, Mr. Reid.

If you hand those numbers in to either of the chairmen, or preferably to the secretary, any time before a deadline that we fix, those particular flags will then be removed from the panels there and all grouped together, so that when we meet again we will have before us on separate panels those first choices, or general choices, of all the members of the committee. At that meeting we can then decide, perhaps, that in fact there are no other flags except those which we will consider in the future, unless at a later date we wish to alter designs and so on. I have not gone into the question particularly, but I do believe that you will find the number reduced to perhaps 300, or somewhere in that neighbourhood, by that process, because I am sure that any particular flag would show up in five or ten of your choices. That is my suggestion, and I will ask you to decide that point and also decide at the same time the deadline which we will fix for that choice, and also the number that each member will choose, or whether he will choose any particular number or not.

Mr. MacNICOL: Mr. Chairman. I am going to suggest that, before the members of the committee be asked to go around and pick out what one they think would be suitable, some guide be given to the committee by way of pamphlet or otherwise, as to the rules followed throughout the world. There are, as you say, 1,800 flags here, or more than that. All of those who drew the flags deserve credit for their ability to draw and for their ability to make designs and so forth. But the flags must have a lot more behind them than designs, colours and so forth. If the committee will look at the board containing the flags of the nations of the world, they will see some special designs that have been followed in many places. For instance, there is the red field, the blue field and the white field. I do not believe there are any other colours that are on the fields.

Hon. Mr. STIRLING: Green.

Mr. MacNICOL: Yes, there is green: white, blue, red and green. I would think that members ought to have some knowledge of the numbers that are red, white, blue or green. Then a lot of the flags have horizontal bars, and I think we ought to have something on that. I am not now referring to these 1,800 flags that are drawn there according to some bright idea that a person might have in his mind. I am referring to national flags, flags that have had something behind them, that the nations of the world drew up to symbolize something to their own people. As far as I can see, there are 14 with red fields,



8 with blue fields, 2 with white fields and 2 or 3 with green fields. Then there are 40 odd with horizontal bars, red, white, blue, pink, yellow or something else. Then there are some with perpendicular bars of the different colours. All of these things seem to have impelled the nations of the world to pick out a flag to suit them. Then there are a number, like the Russian flag, the Turkish flag, the Japanese flag and the German flag, that have merely some symbol on them, like the hammer and sickle or the crescent or the swastika. The flag of India has a star on it. It should be there, if it is not. I would think that the members ought to thoroughly familiarize themselves with what the nations of the world have done before they pick out some one of these 1,800 or more bright and clever drawings that may have something behind them, but what it is only the designer knows. I think they ought to fix their minds on what the nations of the world have done, including members of the British Commonwealth. I was looking at some of these that have the red ensign with the union jack on, and the maple leaf, which, according to my correspondence, is very popular.

I do not see any with maple leaves drawn on them that are attractive at all, nor are they attractively colored. We have got to have something that attracts the eye right away, yet something that does not glare too much, and I do not see anything here which measures up to that. When you say the flag is supposed to represent this or that, that does not mean anything, that is just a happy idea that somebody had.

But, going back to where I broke off, I do not see any shadow of a sign that anyone really knows how to draw it and I do not see any general design that any of them have a maple leaf on them, or any that have a proper colour: so that if I were picking any one of these over here, and I am not saying that I am going to pick one of them, but I do find that the maple leaf is by far the most popular; I would like to pick out one on which the maple leaf was effective. For instance, take the one over here at my left, that is far too small, it must be something which you can see at once. Then, the maple leaf on the next one over further—I don't know whether it is too large or not. I do not think enough attention has been given to the possible design. I am now speaking of a design of a nature that would do the designer justice. I think we ought to have something before us of what is behind a national flag, what is behind our own flag, our own national flag; I mean we should have flags which are properly drawn up and properly designed.

Mr. McIVOR: Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask if we have any certain design in our minds, and we have been dreaming flags at least some of us have, if we have a design in our own minds, what are we to do about it?

The CHAIRMAN: I will answer that along with Mr. MacNicol's remarks by saying this, it is intended on the first screening to choose only the chief from among those that are left. We may find Mr. MacNicol, for example, before we have finished, may choose a flag such as the one about which he has spoken. He might prefer a design with colored maple leaf, or he may choose something else. I suggest that after we have taken the first step that we will be in a better position to proceed with our further work of selection. Now, as to the point raised by Mr. McIvor, if any of you have designs for a flag in your mind, but have not the means of carrying them out, then arrangements might be made by the Committee to secure the services of Wren Frances Gage who is about to be demobilized, and who could do this work under the direction of Lieut.-Commander Bedloe, provided the Naval Services are agreeable to extend the latter's term of service. If your design does not appear in the first display then it would appear in the next. Do I make myself clear?

Mr. LAFONTAINE: On the point raised by Mr. Beaudoin, I agree with him that in the final analysis someone who is a professed flag expert will have to check up on our selections for us.



Mr. CHAIRMAN: I am sure that as time goes on it will become more technical, but I do not think it will for some time yet. Will those in favour of this method please so indicate?

Carried.

The CHAIRMAN: Then the next point is this, I have been reminded by the clerk, are we going to fix a time limit for the submission of designs?

Hon. Mr. LEGER: Yes.

The CHAIRMAN: They are coming in daily and there has been no public announcement made that we will not accept them right up until the last. In some ways it might appear undesirable to make any resolution that we will not consider any submissions that will come in after next week; because, as Mr. Melvor pointed out, if he has an idea of a design for a flag then we would give him an opportunity to have it sketched and submitted for consideration. Personally I do not think we should go on day after day looking at ten or fifteen new designs and re-allocating them. However, there is one thing I should say before I go on, these will be before you in time for you to make your choice and should they not be ready by that time, then you will be given a further opportunity to consider them. Could we have some expression of opinion now as to the cut-off date for submissions?

Mr. BEAUDOIN: I think it is important that we should indicate to the public a date beyond which submissions will not be received. I think by now that most people who are interested in making submissions have put them in, and I doubt if there will be very many more coming in. I think what we have here are representative. I suggest, sir, that there may be more people who will hear about our committee sitting again this year who may want to submit designs, people all the way from Halifax to Victoria, and I think they should have an opportunity of sending them in, so I would suggest as a reasonable date the 30th of April.

The CHAIRMAN: I sincerely hope that the committee will have completed this task by the 30th of April. If I might make a suggestion it would be this, that the closing date should not be later than the time suggested by Mr. Beaudoin. All those in favour of the thirtieth please indicate?

Mr. STIRLING: Surely the committee will sit longer than that.

Mr. BLANCHETTE: I thought we were promised that the committee would be sitting after the Easter recess.

Hon. Mr. LEGER: There is a motion before the committee.

The CHAIRMAN: The motion was to fix a closing date of April 30, for receiving petitions. I would ask all those in favour to so indicate.

Motion agreed to.

Mr. BEAUDOIN: Mr. Chairman, what about the submissions that come in from this time forward? Suppose we go over these and some new ones come in, will we have an opportunity of considering them?

The CHAIRMAN: That is all right, we will do that.

And now, the next point for consideration is this, as to the choice which you will make on your first selection, should there be any limit as to the number of flags or designs members may select on their first choice?

Mr. LAMBERT: You mean, in indicating their preferences.

The CHAIRMAN: Yes, your preferences.

Mr. HERRIDGE: Mr. Chairman, if members of the committee have designs of their own which they would like to submit, will they have an opportunity of submitting them before a final selection is made?

The CHAIRMAN: I thought I made that clear, Mr. Herridge. This is the first screening of the designs displayed. As time goes on we will probably want



to make a choice, on each screening narrowing the group down. Your choice on the first selection is in no way restricted, you can choose any one of the designs you like on the first screening.

Mr. HERRIDGE: I see.

The CHAIRMAN: Have you any opinions as to whether we should limit the number of first choices or not?

Mr. CASTLEDEN: I would move that there would be no limitation on the number of first selections.

Mr. BEAUDOIN: I suggest, Mr. Chairman, that if the secretary would go around with a stick we could eliminate about 55 per cent of them right now, he could take a piece of chalk and mark them off. I see some here, and I think honourable members will agree with me, that are absolutely no good.

Mr. McIVOR: Mr. Chairman, if a member has a flag which he thinks will be a fine flag for Canada. I do not see why he should have to pick three or four other designs.

Mr. HOWDEN: I think it would be best to have the first selection limited, and I would move in amendment to the motion made by Mr. Castleden, that the first choice be limited to five.

Mr. MATTHEWS: What is the membership of this committee, thirty-seven?

The CHAIRMAN: Yes.

Mr. MATTHEWS: That would make 185.

Hon. Mr. LAMBERT: There would be a good many duplications.

The CHAIRMAN: There is a motion by Mr. Castleden that the first choice be unlimited, and there is an amendment by Mr. Howden that it be limited to five in number.

Mr. MACNICOL: Are we going to have five on first choice?

Hon. Mr. LAMBERT: You may indicate your preference.

Mr. MACNICOL: Does that mean that we shall number our selections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5?

Mr. HOWDEN: As I understand it, the members of the committee are going to be allowed an opportunity of choosing from this group the designs of their choice. The motion by Mr. Castleden was that first selection be unlimited, I have suggested in an amendment that we limit it to five.

Mr. CASTLEDEN: Speaking to the amendment, I want to say this, that my idea was that we should go around and look at the flags and write down the serial number of those designs which we thought should be presented before the whole committee for study in order that the committee may choose.

The CHAIRMAN: That is it.

Mr. CASTLEDEN: I think members should then have an opportunity of considering the designs so selected and I cannot see any good purpose in limiting that to five, when there is such a wide variety of design and so many fine qualities in the designs displayed here. I think that by limiting it to five you have narrowed it down too far. I do not feel we should limit anyone in that way. The idea is that we want to get the best offered out of this group of eighteen hundred or more flags, designs for flags, which have been presented and in which there are many good qualities which members of the committee might not see in their first trip through but which might become apparent on a second inspection.

Mr. MATTHEWS: What would be your limit.

Mr. CASTLEDEN: I do not think there should be any limit. I agree with the chairman when he says that they will get down to around three hundred probably on the first selection. I think that is a fair estimate.



Mr. McIVOR: I second Dr. Howden's amendment to the motion. We have not been thinking about this thing just to-day. We have ideas. I would like to make the amendment five or less.

Mr. MacNICOL: What I would like to know about, Mr. Chairman, is this, suppose I only choose one design and my friend sitting opposite me here happens to choose five, and you are making a tabulation of choices, then the five chosen by my honourable friend over here would be that I would be left in the position of one to five. On the basis of proportional representation I would be at a disadvantage.

Some Hon. MEMBERS: No, no.

The CHAIRMAN: I do not want any misunderstanding about the method we are adopting, there is nothing suggesting there will be any limit to any one.

Mr. MacNICOL: All right, thanks.

The CHAIRMAN: I think the committee is well enough informed to be able to express an opinion and that it will have no difficulty in eliminating a large proportion of these designs and in discarding the ones we don't want. We have a motion before us that the number be unlimited and an amendment thereto that it be limited to five. Is there any further discussion?

Hon. Mr. LAMBERT: If I might interject I think there is a very important matter that has not been stressed. In order to guide the committee later, this introduces really a problem in proportional representation. That is true because there are many flags belonging to the same type and if members in voting for these flags are going to give the committee the benefit of their judgment they should indicate a preference, whether it is their first choice, their second choice, their third, and their fourth, out of this collection. They may only decide upon five or six, or there may be more; but at any rate they should indicate their preference; and let the people who have to take the ballot, so to speak, classify the duplications, and then you get the most popular choice.

Mr. LAFONTAINE: You understand that when elimination goes sufficiently far we may have a certain guide or principle that will fix for us the final selection.

The CHAIRMAN: So the amendment is to limit the number to five. Those in favour?

Amendment carried.

The CHAIRMAN: Senator Lambert has suggested that in making a choice you arrange them in the order of preference for the benefit of the committee. If you will do that we will have an indication as to the trend of opinion on the part of the members of the committee; for instance, a certain flag may have 30 first choices, 29 second choices and so forth. That would be quite a help to us in the committee when we come to discuss designs, but it will only be considered as a matter of information which I think should be available at the beginning.

Hon. Mr. LEGER: There is a limit to our choice?

Hon. Mr. LAMBERT: There is the suggestion that we should arrange them 1, 2 to 5 in order of preference.

The CHAIRMAN: No. 1 will be the first choice.

Mr. McCULLOCH: I think when you pick your five from those which are on display you can indicate your order of preference afterwards, or you might number them as you go along.

Mr. BEAUDOIN: Does that mean that you have to put down five or less?

The CHAIRMAN: Whatever you like up to five.

Mr. MacNICOL: Now wait a minute, Mr. Chairman, did I understand the chairman to say that you would have to pick five?



The CHAIRMAN: No, he did not.

Hon. Mr. LAMBERT: Up to five.

Mr. MacNICOL: All right, is that to be tabulated? As I said a few moments ago, if I picked only one, which I likely will, and my honourable friend over here picks five and marks his selections down, 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5.

Mr. Melvor: You can pick one five times.

Mr. MacNICOL: That might be all right.

Mr. McCulloch: No you can't.

Mr. MacNICOL: That is what I am afraid of. That you are going to get an unequal indication of value by this method of choice.

The CHAIRMAN: No.

Mr. MacNICOL: You will not?

The CHAIRMAN: Not at all.

Hon. Mr. LAMBERT: We are going to get them all together anyway.

Mr. MacNICOL: When the chairman announces later on that this design has 50 first choices and the next has 49 second choices, how would the second choices compare with the first choices? Further how would the third choices compare with both the first and the second? What value would be attached to the selections?

The CHAIRMAN: We have no intention to having the preferences used in the matter of which you are thinking. It is only suggested that the indication of a preference might be a matter of convenience for the committee in their further study, and it would be interesting to know the one that has the largest number of first choices. It means nothing at all with respect to voting for a flag.

Mr. REID: Am I to take it that the committee has decided to limit the number of first choices to five?

The CHAIRMAN: Yes.

Mr. REID: I am sorry that I was not able to remain here, I had to be in the House for a short time. To my way of thinking in cutting down the number you are running into grave danger, running into what is known as plumping. Supposing some members say we will put in five all the same kind, and another member, say, like yourself, says I will just pick one. The members of this committee might be accused of something. Let me tell the committee how people are watching this thing. I happened to make a speech in Vancouver to the Rotary Club when I was back and it was on Canadian citizenship and the Canadian flag. I said that from the speeches which had already been made in the House it looked to me as if the thought of the Prime Minister and the Minister of Justice was towards a flag with the Union Jack on it. I think that was a fair statement, but lo and behold it went all over the country that I had chosen and would not have any flag but one with the Union Jack on it. One man from the Province of Quebec wrote me and said, "you must be a damn Englishman; you should go back." I think there is a little danger of that. I am just warning the committee. If it has passed I have nothing further to say.

The CHAIRMAN: I can only repeat what I have said that there is absolutely no intention of using the preference for the purpose of promoting any particular flag. If you do not want to do it it is quite all right, but we felt it would be a step forward in our work to have you arrange those five in the order of preference so that we could arrange them in that order.

Hon. Mr. HowDEN: Would it not be well to have it understood that the members of the committee are being asked to submit a choice of five flags?

The CHAIRMAN: That is right.

Hon. Mr. HowDEN: Let it be understood that way.



Mr. REID: That suggestion is all right.

Mr. GLADSTONE: Would it not be advisable to have our personal preferences tabulated on the board irrespective of choice and let us have a second look at the situation?

The CHAIRMAN: I think you are going to have half a dozen looks.

Mr. GLADSTONE: Without the first time indicating any preference.

Mr. HANSELL: Five flags without any preference.

Mr. REID: Might I make a suggestion also? I think it was suggested in the early part of the meeting that after the members of the committee had individually chosen the five flags the boards would be cleared and these flags we had chosen would be put on. While that is splendid I think it would be advantageous to still leave that background of the world's flags before us.

The CHAIRMAN: Quite. Very well; when you submit your five numbers to the secretary it is understood that they are not going to be necessarily in the order of your choice.

Mr. BEAUDOIN: How long do we have to do that?

The CHAIRMAN: The next question is how long will you take for your choice? May I respectfully suggest to you that within reason you make it as short as you can in view of the fact we will likely have a very long time on the technical end of these flags as we begin to eliminate out of the two or three hundred. We will have had the first choice, and in the meantime there are 1,800 for you to look at, but I do think you can do it very quickly.

Mr. GLADSTONE: Would one week be ample?

The CHAIRMAN: I am sure that a week would be more than ample, but if you want that much—

Mr. REID: How long?

The CHAIRMAN: A week.

Mr. REID: I am going to raise this point. If you have set the time as up to the 30th for the receipt of flags then I say that we cannot submit these until that date has been reached, in fairness, and I am going to propose that we be allowed a deadline up to the 30th.

Mr. CASTLEDEN: I would like to second that motion.

The CHAIRMAN: Before the motion is put may I respectfully suggest that these designs which will be coming in from day to day may total ten or fifteen and may not be that many per day between now and the 30 of April. Surely we can continue to make our choice out of those as they come in and add them to the group we have already chosen if we feel like doing so without putting the first choice off until the 30th April. There is no intention of eliminating those that come in in the meantime just because they are late. So with that I do hope you will adopt that suggestion that on the 30th April we will have all those that have come in in the interval and we will screen those then.

Mr. REID: When are you suggesting the deadline for the numbers?

Mr. WARREN: Next Tuesday.

The CHAIRMAN: The deadline for the numbers of those now in is the thing we are talking about at the present time, and it has been suggested that it be a week from today.

Mr. REID: I think that is too soon because there are certain members of the committee going to leave shortly who have long distances to travel for the Easter recess. I think that is not a long enough time.

The CHAIRMAN: May I ask one word? We got the railway committee room from the Veterans Affairs Committee and from various other organizations for the purpose of this display. It was on my promise that we would likely be able to move out some time during the Easter week that we got it. I do feel if you



make this preliminary choice between now and the holiday then the kind of room we require afterwards will be much smaller than we have at the present time, and we can move to another room and allow the work in this one to continue. We have had to move these designs practically daily since we put them up for deputations and one thing and another.

Mr. REID: I am going to move that Thursday, the 2nd of May, be the deadline.

Mr. BEAUDOIN: At this time I want to disagree with Mr. Reid and his proposed amendment. We have already agreed that there be no choice indicated, and that we select within the coming week five flags out of the ones that are already shown here and, of course, consider those that will come in until the 30th. We will be permitted to select and make our choice out of the ones that come later on and which, I suppose, will be displayed as they come in in the same manner that these have been displayed. Therefore, I move that it be cut short to one week.

Mr. GLADSTONE: I second the motion.

Hon. Mr. STIRLING: I am not quite clear as to how you propose to handle those which come in between now and the 30th of April. Did I understand you to say that we could choose from those and thus increase our five to seven, eight or nine?

Mr. CHAIRMAN: That is the purpose. After the 30th of April we may have perhaps 100 flags and we may not. We will then screen those from the beginning. There will be no restrictions on the members so far as their choice on those is concerned, and those among that group will go with those that we have along with these at that time.

Mr. CASTLEDEN: Speaking against the motion to have it cut off by next Tuesday I would say that if you are limiting the number of flags we can choose to five and you want that done within a week from to-day then some of the members are going to be away by that time. I do not think you should use as an excuse the fact that we may not be able to have the railway committee room. I think the importance of the job that is ahead of us is just a little bit too big for it to be put on that plane. I would suggest that if accommodation is not available in this room that these flags be put up in some other room where the members will really have an opportunity of going through them. If I could select 100 I could have it done by next Tuesday, but if we are going to have to bring it down to five, I am going to learn the rules of heraldry and all the rest of it. I do not think that I can make a proper study and intelligent choice in three or four days and bring it down to five. I have spent four hours in here already going over them. There are far more ideas in here than one would imagine, and they are not quite as conglomerate as they look at this time. There are good ideas, and I would be glad to second Mr. Reid's motion that we leave this off until the 30th of April.

The CHAIRMAN: May I just add one word? This is the only room that will accommodate the flags we have.

Mr. REID: What better background could any committee have than the one that is here? Why would any committee object to these flags? What better background do they want? It is cheery, bright and educational. There are also things to laugh at.

The CHAIRMAN: We have got a motion by Mr. Reid that we delay this first choice until the 2nd of May. I think it was, and an amendment that we make our first choice within a week. Is there any further discussion? On the amendment; those in favour of the amendment? Ten. Opposed? Ten.

The amendment is carried.



Mr. MATTHEWS: How do you designate those on the wall?

The CHAIRMAN: There is a tag on them with the number. Gentlemen, have to get ourselves clear? By a week from to-day each member will have submitted to Major Chassé the numbers of the flags that he would like up to five, and that thereafter those will be segregated and available for our next meeting, that on the 30th of April all those that come in in the meantime will similarly be screened. Is that clear? Is there anything further?

Mr. MacNICOL: There is one thing further. The meeting to-day is in the afternoon. If we are going to meet next Tuesday why can we not meet at 10 o'clock in the morning? It is kind of tough to be out of the House for a lot of important business is going on there. I personally do not like being out of the House. I like being there and taking part in what goes on before it. Here we are for two hours this afternoon and a whole lot of important business is going on there. I had something to say to-day.

The CHAIRMAN: The reason for meeting at this time to-day, Mr. MacNicol, was that this week we have the Veterans Affairs Committee and War Expenditures Committee, and I believe there is one other, meeting in the morning at 11 o'clock. If we can fit ourselves into another time next week we will. We certainly do not want to miss the House any more than we can help. Have you any opinion then as to our meeting? Will it be a week from to-day? Remember we adjourn on the Wednesday.

Hon. Mr. LÉGER: The Senate adjourns this week.

Mr. LAFONTAINE: What about those letters? Are they sorted by constituencies?

The CHAIRMAN: I do not think they could be. Mr. Chassé will go into it with you.

Mr. REID: I draw your attention to the fact that in setting the date for next week we should take into consideration the fact that the Senate, I understand, is going to adjourn on Friday. Many members will be gone, and it is important that as many members as possible attend the meetings of this committee. I am not going to insist on my views, but I think you should keep that point in mind.

The CHAIRMAN: I was about to say that we had better adjourn and the chair will notify you when the next meeting is, but it certainly will not be any earlier than a week from to-day, and if the Senate is adjourned at that time we possibly may not meet next week at all. Is there anything further before we do adjourn?

Mr. McIVOR: I would like to move a vote of thanks to the naval officer and those who assisted him in doing all this work. They have been on their knees on this floor a lot, and I think a vote of thanks should be moved.

Mr. CASTLEDEN: And the Secretary (Carried).

The CHAIRMAN: Then, we will adjourn.

The Committee adjourned at 5.40 p.m. to meet again at the call of the chair.







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Canada: National Flag, Joint-Cltee of  
the Senate and House of Commons on a,

(SESSION 1946)

1946



(JOINT COMMITTEE OF THE SENATE AND  
THE HOUSE OF COMMONS

Appointed to Consider and Report Upon  
a Suitable Design for a Distinctive

NATIONAL FLAG  
FOR CANADA )

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MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AND EVIDENCE

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No. 2

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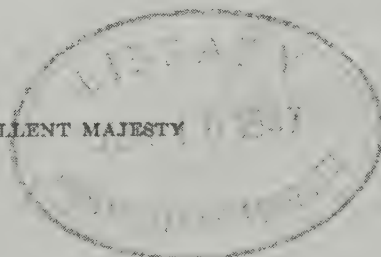
Tuesday, April 30, 1946

Tuesday, May 7, 1946

Wednesday, May 8, 1946

Thursday, May 9, 1946

OTTAWA  
EDMOND CLOUTIER  
PRINTER TO THE KING'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY  
1946









## MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

HOUSE OF COMMONS, Room 277,

TUESDAY, 30th April, 1946.

The Joint Committee of the Senate and the House of Commons, appointed to consider and report upon a suitable design for a distinctive national flag for Canada, met this day at 8.30 o'clock p.m. Honourable Senator N. P. Lambert, Chairman of the Senate Section, presided.

### PRESENT:

*The Senate:* Honourable Senators Gershaw, Johnston, Lambert, Leger, Quinn, Robinson, White.

*The House of Commons:* Messrs. Beaudoin, Blanchette, Emmerson, Gingues, Hansell, Harris (*Grey-Bruce*), Herridge, LaCroix, Lafontaine, Macdonnell, MacNicol, Matthews (*Brandon*), McCulloch, (*Pictou*), McIvor, Reid, Stanfield, Stirling, Warren, Zaplitny.

The Chairman (Honourable Senator N. P. Lambert), called the meeting to order and requested the Clerk of the Committee to announce the results of the poll carried out by the members of the Committee in accordance with the resolution adopted at the last meeting, held on 9th April, 1946, and to indicate the number of designs which had been received since 9th April up to and including the closing date, 30th April, 1946.

Thereupon, the Clerk of the Committee read into the record the following information:

A total of 1788 designs were on display up to and including this day. Of this number 55 designs have been selected by the members and are now displayed separately.

621 new designs have been received between the 9th of April and the 20th April, 1946. 525 of these were submitted by the general public and the remainder, 96, were drawn from files of the Department of National Defence and were submitted by the general public to a Committee of that Department in 1925-26.

All in all, 2,409 actual designs were received by the committee, 1788 of which have already been displayed, and 621 are now in readiness for display.

In addition to the above, 96 written suggestions are on hand but all have not been translated into actual designs.

Resolutions, letters, etc., in favour of the inclusion of the union jack are also on hand. These numbered 80 submitted directly to the Committee, and 22 received through the Department of National Defence.

Resolutions, letters, etc., in favour of the exclusion of the union jack number fifty-five (55). In addition several petitions were received to the same effect, on which appear approximately six hundred names.

Letters from 10,874 individuals and several petitions with 1,820 names thereon, favouring the flag design submitted by La Ligue de Drapeau national are also on hand.

To a question of Hon. Mr. Stirling, as to the origin of the design, the Clerk of the Committee stated that, of the 2,313 designs received directly by the Committee, 2,216 were submitted by 979 known parties and 97 from 43 persons using a pseudonym; of the 96 received by the Committee through the Department of



National Defence, 91 came from 55 known parties and 5 from persons using a pseudonym.

A discussion followed in relation to the disposal of the flag designs which are not selected from the first display of the total of 1,788.

On motion of Mr. MacNicol, it was unanimously

*Resolved*.—That the 55 flag designs selected by the Committee be kept on display for further consideration, and that the remainder of the 1,788 be not further considered at the present time.

The Committee thereafter considered the screening of the 621 new designs. After some discussion, on motion of Mr. McCulloch (*Pictou*), it was unanimously

*Resolved*.—That the 621 new designs now before the Committee be displayed as soon as possible. Of that number, the 96 from the Department of National Defence Committee of 1925-26 be displayed separately. Also, that each member of the Committee select from that total two designs and that the serial number of his selections be turned in to the clerk of the Committee not later than 12 o'clock noon, Wednesday, 8th May, 1946.

To a question by the Chairman as to the probable time the new display might be ready, the Clerk of the Committee stated he would endeavour to have this completed for Thursday morning, May 2nd, 1946.

The Chairman explained that the Committee had on loan to it from the Canadian Naval Services the services of Miss Frances Gage. However, Miss Gage had now been released from the Naval Service and in order that her services as technical assistant could be retained, the Committee would require authority to engage her directly until such time as the Committee is finished with its work.

On motion of Mr. MacNicol, it was unanimously

*Resolved*.—That permission be sought to employ a technical assistant.

At 9 o'clock p.m., on motion of Mr. LaCroix, the Committee adjourned to meet again at the call of the Chair.

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#### TUESDAY, May 7th, 1946.

The Joint Committee of the Senate and the House of Commons, appointed to consider and report upon a suitable design for a distinctive national flag for Canada, met this day at 8.30 o'clock p.m. Mr. W. E. Harris, Chairman of the House of Commons Section of the Joint Committee, presided.

#### PRESENT:

*The Senate:* Honourable Senators Gershaw, Gouin, Howden, Lambert, Leger, Quinn, Robinson, White.

*The House of Commons:* Messrs. Beaudoin, Blanchette, Castleden, Emmerson, Gingues, Gladstone, Harris (*Grey-Bruce*), Herridge, LaCroix, Lafontaine, MacNicol, Matthews (*Brandon*), McCulloch (*Pictou*), McIvor, Reid, Smith (*Calgary-West*), Stanfield, Stirling, Zaplitny.

The Chairman called on the Clerk of the Committee to announce the result of the poll carried out by the members in accordance with the resolution adopted by the Committee at its last meeting, held at 8.30 o'clock p.m., April 30, 1946.

The Clerk of the Committee, thereupon, reported that 32 members out of the 37 comprising the membership of the Joint Committee had turned in individual selections. As a result 21 designs, out of the 621 on display since twelve o'clock noon, Thursday, May 2, 1946, had been chosen and were now segregated from the lot.



Summing up, 2,409 flag designs had been on display in two stages. Of this number a total of 76 had been selected. Of the remainder, 2,333, 1,733 had been put away as ordered by the Committee and 600 were awaiting disposal.

On motion of Mr. MacNicol, it was agreed that the 600 designs not selected from the second display be not further considered for the present time.

The Chairman then suggested that, during the recess between this meeting and the next, each member carefully review the 76 designs drawn as a result of the combined selections and now on a separate display alongside one wall of the room and that each member mark his preferred choice; the Committee, at its next meeting, might then devise ways and means whereby a final selection could be arrived at. This procedure was agreed to.

At 8.35 o'clock p.m., on motion of Mr. Lafontaine, the Committee adjourned to meet again at 5.00 o'clock p.m., tomorrow, Wednesday, May 8, 1946.

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WEDNESDAY, May 8, 1946.

The Joint Committee of the Senate and the House of Commons, appointed to consider and report upon a suitable design for a distinctive national flag for Canada, met this day at 5.00 o'clock p.m. Honourable Senator N. P. Lambert, Chairman of the Senate Section of the Joint Committee, presided.

PRESENT:

*The Senate:* Honourable Senators Davies, Gershaw, Gouin, Howden, Johnston, Lambert, Leger, Quinn, Robinson, White.

*The House of Commons:* Messrs. Beaudoin, Blanchette, Castleden, Emmerson, Gingues, Gladstone, Hackett, Harris (*Grey-Bruce*), LaCroix, Lafontaine, MacNicol, Matthews (*Brandon*), McCulloch (*Pictou*), McIvor, Reid, Stanfield, Stirling, Warren, Zaplitny.

The Chairman invited the Committee to consider the problem of making a final selection from the 76 designs which remained as a result of the review made by the members of the 2,409 submissions.

Whereupon, Mr. Gladstone, moved,

That this Committee recommend that the Flag of Canada shall be the Canadian Red Ensign with a Maple leaf in autumn golden colour replacing the Coat-of-Arms on the fly.

In amendment thereto, Mr. LaCroix moved,

Whereas the Order of Reference to the Committee specifically states that it is expedient that Canada possess a distinctive national flag no design be considered for a recommendation by this Committee as a suitable design for a Canadian distinctive flag which shall include therein the Union Jack.

The Chair ruled the amendment by Mr. LaCroix out of order.

Whereupon, Mr. LaCroix appealed from the ruling of the Chair.

And a vote having been taken, the ruling of the Chairman was sustained by the following division: Yeas, 21; Nays, 4.

The Chairman pointed out that two amendments to the main motion could be before the Chair at the one time and as one or two of these are disposed of further amendments would be received. By this procedure, it was suggested, all designs could be disposed of until such time as one amendment or the main motion should carry.

Therefore, Mr. Blanchette, as an amendment to the motion by Mr. Gladstone, moved:—

That the Committee instead "recommend", as a national flag for Canada design marked No. 268, as submitted by "La Ligue du Drapeau National or National Flag Clubs".

A discussion took place on the amendment.

At one point of the debate on the amendment, Honourable Senator Robinson, rising on a point of order, submitted that the procedure adopted by the Committee might prove somewhat cumbersome and lengthy. He suggested that the process of elimination or selection which had been carried on successfully up to this stage might be carried a bit further by having the members proceed with a further poll of the seventy-six designs on display and still to be considered by the Committee. He would be prepared to move an amendment to the amendment to this effect, provided the Chair would be prepared to accept such an amendment.

After considerable discussion on the point of order, it was agreed to allow the motion and the amendment before the Committee to stand until the next meeting when the question of procedure might again be considered.

At 5.45 o'clock p.m., on motion of Mr. Harris, the Committee adjourned to meet at the call of the Chair.

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THURSDAY, May 9th, 1946.

The Joint Committee of the Senate and the House of Commons, appointed to consider and report upon a suitable design for a distinctive national flag for Canada, met this day at 4.00 o'clock p.m. Honourable Senator N. P. Lambert, Chairman of the Senate section of the Joint Committee, presided.

PRESENT:

*The Senate:* Honourable Senators David, Davies, Gershaw, Gouin, Howden, Johnston, Lambert, Quinn, Robinson, White.

*The House of Commons:* Messrs. Beaudoin, Blanchette, Castleden, Emerson, Gingues, Gladstone, Hackett, Haugell, Herridge, LaCroix, Lafontaine, Macdonnell (*Muskoka-Ontario*), MacNicol, Matthews (*Brandon*), McCulloch (*Pictou*), McIvor, Reid, Smith (*Calgary West*), Stanfield, Stirling, Thatcher, Zaplitny.

The Committee, before resuming the debate on the amendment of Mr. Blanchette to the motion of Mr. Gladstone, unanimously agreed to allow the said amendment to stand and to discuss further the matter of procedure it might adopt. The Chairman, then, invited Honourable Senator Robinson to enlarge on his proposal made during the last meeting.

Honourable Senator Robinson submitted that before any concrete proposition in the form of a motion or by amendments thereto are placed before the Committee, he felt that a further elimination of the 76 designs still before the Committee should be proceeded with. Such a procedure would reduce the number of motions and/or amendments to a minimum and as a result the progress of the Committee might be advanced with no prejudice to the preference of any individual member. If the procedure he had suggested were not to be followed and no further eliminations were made, his intention then was to move as an amendment to the amendment the following:—



That,

- (1) Flag design bearing No. 1729 be instead selected by this Committee as a suitable design for a distinctive national flag for Canada;
- (2) Before the members of this Committee take a vote on a motion and/or any amendments thereto to select a flag is proceeded with, arrangements be made to have the Clerk of the Committee have the flags flown on flagstaffs so that all members of this Committee may have the opportunity of seeing said flags flown both in breezy and calm weather.

*(The flag design referred to has been submitted by Mr. J. LeRoy Holman, from Summerside, P.E.I.)*

The Chairman felt that Part (2) of the amendment to the amendment was not relevant and suggested that Honourable Senator Robinson obtain leave of the Committee to withdraw that part thereof.

At this stage, on motion of Mr. Castleden, it was unanimously agreed that the Committee revert to its former system of selection in respect of the 76 designs now on display and that, in the meantime, the motion by Mr. Gladstone, the amendment thereto of Mr. Blanchette, together with the amendment to be amended by Mr. Robinson, be allowed to stand.

Whereupon, Senator Robinson, with leave of the Committee, withdrew the whole of his amendment to the amendment.

Mr. Gladstone stated that the design recommended in his motion could be identified on the panel as the one bearing number 797 and submitted by Mr. Donald Baird, of Truro, N.S.

Mr. LaCroix inquired as to whether or not the Committee had received from the Legislature of Quebec a copy of a resolution relating to the flag. The Chairman informed the Committee that no such communication had been received.

It was agreed, however, that the 76 designs now on display do not constitute the only field for selection, and the Committee was at liberty to recommend any other design it may deem suitable as a distinctive national flag.

Whereupon, Mr. LaCroix moved,

Whereas the order of reference specifically states that it is expedient that Canada possess a distinctive national flag, no design be considered for recommendation by this Committee as a suitable design for a distinctive Canadian flag which shall include therein the Union Jack or the fleur-de-lis.

The Chairman ruled the motion out of order.

Mr. Zaplitny then moved that each member of the Committee be permitted to make one choice from the 76 designs still on display and all those not so chosen be dropped.

And the question being put on the motion of Mr. Zaplitny, it was resolved on the following division: Yeas 24; Nays, 3.

It was further agreed that each member turn in his one selection to the Clerk of the Committee not later than twelve o'clock noon Tuesday, May 14th, 1946, and that each member sign the communication on which is recorded his choice.

At 5.25 o'clock p.m., on motion of Mr. LaCroix, the Committee adjourned to meet again at the call of the Chair.

ANTOINE CHASSÉ,  
*Clerk of the Joint Committee.*





## MINUTES OF EVIDENCE

HOUSE OF COMMONS, April 30, 1946.

The Joint Special Committee of the Senate and the House of Commons appointed to consider and report upon a suitable design for a distinctive national flag for Canada, met this day at 8.30 o'clock p.m. Hon. N. P. Lambert presided.

The CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, if you will come to order; we have a quorum now.

At the last meeting it was decided, as you know, to have a vote taken in the committee in relation to the flags shown here on the screens. There were to be five selections, or votes, per member. That vote was polled, and now I will ask the clerk of the committee to announce the results.

The CLERK: Mr. Chairman and gentlemen: There were 1,788 flags displayed at the time of the last meeting, and out of that number fifty-five designs were selected. These fifty-five designs of flags are displayed on the two panels right behind me here, and five are hanging on the wall on the left (south side of centre door, on west wall).

In addition, 621 more designs for flags have been received. These have not yet been displayed but they are ready for display. That makes a grand total of 2,409 flags, representing 1,079 parties who have sent in designs; but in that number are included 96 which have come from the Department of National Defence, designs for flags which were submitted by the Public to a committee of that Department in 1925-26.

The resolutions up to date favouring the inclusion of the union jack number eighty which have been presented to the committee, and twenty-two which were in the files of the Department of National Defence. There were also fifty-five resolutions against the inclusion of the union jack in the design, and there are three petitions with approximately six hundred names.

There are also ninety-two written suggestions several of which have been translated into designs by Lt.-Commander Beddoe, but all have not been completed.

In support of the flag of La Ligue du Drapeau Nationale there are 10,874 letters, several petitions with 1,820 names; and approximately twenty-five resolutions.

Hon. Mr. STIRLING: In connection with the ninety-six designs which came from the Department of National Defence may I ask where they originated, did they come from individuals throughout Canada?

The CLERK: They were ninety-one designs which came from fifty-five known parties, and five designs which came from two unknown parties. If you want a breakdown of the 2,313 designs which have been submitted directly to this committee, there were 2,216 designs from 979 known parties, and 97 from 43 unknown parties.

Hon. Mr. WHITE: What about the ones that came from the committee of 1925?

Hon. Mr. STIRLING: Referring to the ninety-six which were handed over by the Department of National Defence from 1925, did they come from individuals?

The CLERK: Yes, sir.

Mr. MACNICOL: Mr. Chairman, according to the statement just made to us by the Clerk of the Committee the total of 1,788 flag designs which were before us at the time of our last meeting have now been narrowed down to fifty-five as a result of the choice made by the members. I am going to move that all the

other designs, apart from the fifty-five--and, of course, not including the 621 which are still to be inspected--that the remainder of the 1,788 from which the fifty-five designs have not been chosen, be eliminated. Then we can go ahead and look at the 621 designs which have come in since.

Mr. REID: May I ask the mover of this motion what his intention is with regard to the 621 designs for flags which have come in since the first selection was made?

Mr. MacNICOL: My motion refers to the designs which were before us at our last meeting, the 1,788 to which the clerk referred, and from which fifty-five designs have been selected. I move we eliminate the balance of the 1,788, and then we can look over this new lot of 621.

The CHAIRMAN: The resolution, gentlemen, is to discard the balance of these flags which were not selected by the vote of the committee. You have heard the resolution, are you ready for the question?

Mr. REID: Mr. Chairman, before you put the motion, I would suggest that it would not be wise at the moment for the committee to discard all the designs other than the fifty-five selected; at least, not until a final decision has been reached. I would suggest that they be put to one side and held in reserve for the time being.

The CHAIRMAN: Would you say, "be not further considered at the present time"?

Mr. REID: Be not considered--?

The CHAIRMAN: Be not further considered at the present time.

Mr. REID: Yes.

The CHAIRMAN: All right. Are there any objections to that Mr. MacNICOL?

Mr. MacNICOL: No objection to that, Mr. Chairman.

Motion agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN: There are 621 new flags which have come to us since the vote was taken on the first lot, and it will be in order now to suggest what you want to have done with those.

Mr. MacNICOL: I would move that Mr. Chassé place them on boards as soon as possible.

Mr. McIVOR: Is there anything in these new flags that is not in the other 1,788?

The CHAIRMAN: You will have to be the judge of that, I think. At the last meeting when this procedure was being discussed it was agreed, I think, that any flags that came in after the vote was taken would be screened and the members would have another opportunity of casting a ballot on those. The question arises as to how many selections out of those 621 the committee would recommend for each member.

Mr. McCulloch: I think the members should have a chance to go over those 621 and pick out, say, three.

Mr. MacNICOL: We picked out five from the 1,788.

Mr. McCulloch: Pick out two or three, say.

Mr. MacNICOL: Would two be satisfactory?

Mr. McCulloch: Yes. I move that two be picked out.

Hon. Mr. LEGER: I would second that.

The CHAIRMAN: It is moved by Mr. McCulloch and seconded by Hon. Mr. Leger that the 621 new flags be screened and that the members of the committee cast a ballot on them, each member making two choices amongst those 621 new flags.

(Motion agreed to.)



The CHAIRMAN: That means that it will take a little while to screen them. I think you said that it might be possible to have them up by Saturday, did you not, Mr. Chassé?

The CLERK: By Friday.

The CHAIRMAN: By Friday, you say. Then would it be possible to limit the voting period until next Tuesday, a week from now?

Mr. McCULLOCH: I think that would be all right.

The CHAIRMAN: That would mean you could begin to see them on Friday and have until next Tuesday to make your choice; you would have the period between Friday and Tuesday to file your vote.

Hon. Mr. WHITE: Do you not think it would be better to leave a little more leeway? The Senate may not be meeting until Tuesday evening, and I think we ought to have until about Thursday of next week; either Wednesday or Thursday.

The CHAIRMAN: Can you get them up by Thursday, Mr. Chassé?

The CLERK: Yes, if it could be arranged to have the Veterans Affairs Committee sit in another room.

Mr. McCULLOCH: How long will it take to display them?

The CHAIRMAN: There is some difficulty in clearing this room sufficiently to get the other flags up before Friday. There are some meetings taking place in this room and so on. If you want to leave the voting day until Wednesday, all right. What about that?

Hon. Mr. WHITE: Wednesday.

Mr. McCULLOCH: I would move that.

The CHAIRMAN: Make voting date Wednesday. That would give the members an opportunity to make their choice.

Mr. McCULLOCH: Yes. (Motion carried.)

Hon. Mr. STIRLING: How many of the 37 members of the committee availed themselves of the opportunity of choosing five?

The CHAIRMAN: All of them.

Hon. Mr. STIRLING: All of them?

The CHAIRMAN: I am informed that 29 out of the 37 voted. When the flags are arranged, they will be arranged similarly to the way in which the others were arranged. There will be a panel number and a flag number. When you are making your selection, I would ask you to be sure to put both numbers on your ballot; that is, the panel number and the flag number. In other words, the flag may be No. 7 on panel 13, or No. 6 on panel 14, and so on.

Those are the main things that we have to do in connection with the preparation for these new flags, but there is some business in connection with the staff. Mr. Chassé had a technical assistant who had been loaned to him from the Navy department, a young lady whose period of employment in the Navy has come to an end, and we have to have authority to re-engage her services for this committee. It will require a resolution to authorize the employment of a clerical assistant at the rate of \$5 per day. Is there anyone who is willing to move that resolution?

Mr. MACNICOL: Mr. Chassé has to have an assistant.

The CHAIRMAN: Well, I would think so. He has had one right from the beginning on this job.

Mr. MACNICOL: I move that the young lady be re-engaged until the committee is through with its work.

Mr. MACDONNELL: Is there no other one that can be borrowed?

The CHAIRMAN: There is a young lady, Miss Gage, who has been doing this work and I imagine that, until this work is finished, her services should be renewed or she should be re-engaged.

Mr. LACROIX: I second the motion.

Hon. Mr. STIRLING: Does that mean for the duration of the sittings of the committee, or what?

The CHAIRMAN: I think that, until a selection is finally made, this committee's work will be unfinished; and until that is done, I should think the staff that Mr. Chassé has will be needed.

Mr. MACNICOL: Will you put the motion, Mr. Chairman?

Mr. HERRIDGE: What would be the duties of the assistant secretary and what would be the volume of correspondence to be handled from this point on?

The CHAIRMAN: I will ask Mr. Chassé to answer that question.

The CLERK: As far as clerical work is concerned, I can say that this is well taken care of but some people have had to work about 18 hours a day. With regard to the matter of the display, I need someone who understands something about art work. That is some of the work Miss Gage has been doing. She did that panel over here with the flags of the Nations of the world, and she helped yesterday and to-day in the classification. That has to be done very carefully. Otherwise it is impossible to make an intelligent presentation of the material on hand. Also there are some written designs that need to be translated into actual designs, and it is because she has some technical experience in this line of work that she is required. It is not a question of clerical assistance, because as far as the clerical work is concerned, I am attending to that.

The CHAIRMAN: You have heard that motion that we pass a resolution to re-engage Miss Frances Gage as a technical assistant at the rate of \$5 per day. All in favor? (Motion carried).

Mr. McIVOR: I do not think we should ask anyone to work overtime unless they get paid extra for the overtime.

The CHAIRMAN: Is there anything else you would like to raise?

Mr. HANSELL: Might I suggest, Mr. Chairman, as to the display that the ones we have already chosen be put on the panel numbered one, two, and so forth, and the others on from there.

The CLERK: Mr. Chairman, I might explain what the plan is. These two panels will be moved alongside the flags of the nations of the world and the 621 new designs will be displayed around the room. They will be segregated from the selection from the 1,788.

Mr. HANSELL: As long as we know.

The CLERK: And the panels will be numbered from one on. It will probably require ten or eleven panels, but the rest will be out of the room.

Mr. HANSELL: The ones we have already chosen will not be numbered?

The CLERK: Those that have been chosen will be here but the rest will all be out of the room.

Mr. HANSELL: I know that. I just wanted to make a distinction between those that have already been chosen and those from which we are to choose two. That is all.

The CHAIRMAN: That is being done. The selections already made will be put here on this wall and the new ones will be over there. The others will disappear for the time being. There is a motion to adjourn, so we will adjourn at the call of the chair.

The committee adjourned at 9.00 p.m. to meet again at the call of the chair.

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## MINUTES OF EVIDENCE

HOUSE OF COMMONS, May 8, 1946.

The Joint Special Committee of the Senate and the House of Commons appointed to consider and report upon a suitable design for a distinctive national flag for Canada, met this day at 5.00 o'clock p.m. Hon. N. P. Lambert, (Chairman of the Senate section) presided.

The CHAIRMAN: Yesterday afternoon in closing the meeting the chairman explained that the flags that had finally been selected would be displayed to-day in their full number from the wall at my back to the other side of the screen including the large flags on that wall. Since yesterday afternoon an opportunity has been given to members of the committee to review these exhibits finally and make a selection in their own minds. We have now come to the point in our proceedings where suggestions and recommendations for a final selection of a flag that this committee would be prepared to recommend or consider are now in order. Unless there is some discussion among the members of the committee I think that without further remarks I will ask the members of the committee to consider that problem at once.

Mr. GLADSTONE: Mr. Chairman, we have before us seventy-six designs of flags as submitted by interested citizens from all parts of Canada. I spent some time this morning analysing them myself and putting these designs into various groups. If my count is correct in each case—and I take it that it is approximately correct—there are three designs in which the beaver appears. There are seven designs in which the fleur-de-lis appears. There are nineteen designs with the maple leaf without the union jack.

Mr. MACNICOL: How many?

Mr. GLADSTONE: Nineteen. There are five designs without the beaver or maple leaf or fleur-de-lis or union jack. There are fifty-three designs with the union jack and there are sixty-six designs in which the maple leaf is displayed in some part of the flag.

As I have come into the House of Commons each morning recently I have been observing the flag displayed on the Peace Tower, the Canadian red ensign. I have been struck by the beauty of that flag as it has floated in the morning breeze. A portion of it is not altogether distinctive from a distance, that is, the coat of arms. It has seemed to me from the pronounced support, the almost unanimous support, for the maple leaf in the choices that have been made there is an indication of a feeling that our flag should include the maple leaf. Accordingly I would move that we recommend that the flag of Canada shall be the Canadian red ensign with a maple leaf in autumn golden colors replacing the coat of arms.

Mr. MACNICOL: Leave out the color of the leaf. That will be a matter for further consideration.

The CHAIRMAN: Will you give me a copy of your resolution? I do not think that it requires a seconder.

Hon. Mr. LEGER: Not in committee.

Hon. Mr. HOWDEN: I would be glad to second that motion if it does require a seconder.

The CHAIRMAN: All right, but it does not require one.

Mr. LACROIX: I should like to move an amendment to that motion. Before moving it I want the committee to consider different facts. First of all as you are aware there has been a resolution passed unanimously by the Quebec legislature in favour of a national distinctive flag without the union jack on it. Moreover we have received here, roughly speaking, twenty thousand requests in favour of national distinctive flag without any union jack included in it. I think that it is the general feeling. Now to indicate to you what is the general feeling not only in the province of Quebec but elsewhere, let me read you two letters that have been received by myself, one from Regina, Saskatchewan, and another one from Toronto.

Mr. WILFRID LACROIX, M.P.  
Montmorency-Quebec  
House of Commons, Ottawa.

March 30th

DEAR MR. LACROIX,—I wish to compliment you on your stand for a distinctive Canadian flag. If we have arrived at the status of being entitled to a flag of our own—let it be our own. It makes no difference from what racial stock we came. We are all Canadians and should not have any marks on the flag to say what our ancestors were. (Mine were English).

I see that as well as being Canadians we are also British subjects. Well, if that is so we may use the union jack when we wish to stress our being that. We are entitled to. When we wish to be dealt with as Canadians we should have a flag which says just that and nothing else.

In time one flag or the other will come into almost exclusive use in our country and then it will not be necessary to fight among ourselves over it.

If the flag adopted now is not distinctive, the whole question will be brought up again within twenty-five years and all the present fuss will have been for nothing.

Let our official flag be just ours—without crosses, stars or fleur-de-lis. Stick by your guns and if some English born members of the committee try to force the union jack into the picture you are certainly entitled to the lily of France.

I'm boosting strong for the maple leaf.  
Good luck.

Yours sincerely,  
C. GOODRIDGE.

His name is Mr. Goodridge, 1332 Argyle Street, Regina, Sask. Then, I received another one from Toronto.

Mr. McCULLOCH: Are letters to be read? Every member of the committee has had hundreds of letters.

The CHAIRMAN: Just a minute; I think we will let him complete his second letter. There are just two.

Mr. LACROIX: I have another one from Toronto.

DEAR MR. LACROIX:—I commend you on your action to have symbols or devices of other countries eliminated from the new Canadian flag.

A survey of copies of the Canadian army newspaper for the month of December, 1945, will reveal that the servicemen of this latest war do not want either the symbols of United Kingdom or old France on the new Canadian flag.



This new flag will be the flag of the younger generation and it is my belief that the younger generation want only a symbol of loyalty to Canada.

In these days of discovery of loyalties having precedence over loyalty to Canada the flag of no other country has any right as part of the flag of Canada.

I thought perhaps you might like a little encouragement from a citizen from Ontario, proud to call himself a Canadian.

GORDON E. LEWIS,  
359 Rhodes Ave. Toronto.

P.S.—I served overseas with the Canadian army and I think many of the boys would speak as I have written.

I really think that we should take into consideration the views which have been expressed very categorically by the province of Quebec and by requests that have come to the committee from practically every part of Canada. I will move as an amendment to the main motion the following:—

Whereas the order of reference to the committee specifically states that it is expedient that Canada possess a distinctive flag I have the honour to move that no design be considered for a recommendation by this committee as a suitable design for a Canadian distinctive flag which shall include therein the union jack.

Hon. Mr. HOWDEN: Mr. Chairman—

The CHAIRMAN: Just a minute, I want to read the wording of this motion. I did not hear it very well. I am inclined definitely to the opinion that this amendment is out of order.

Hon. Mr. HOWDEN: Quite so.

The CHAIRMAN: Because it is entirely negative in character, and to be an amendment it should concern itself positively with recommending one of the seventy-six designs which the committee, through its procedure, has decided to select for final showing. Therefore, I have no alternative, Mr. LaCroix, but to rule your resolution out of order. If you desire to appeal from my ruling you are free to do so.

Mr. LACROIX: I do so because I think my amendment is in order. There is a motion before us right now in favour of a flag. I think it is absolutely in conformity with the rules to challenge that choice. There is already one motion. Before considering the final choice of the flag, I think it is absolutely right to suggest something else, some principle that will guide us definitely in the final choice of the flag.

The CHAIRMAN: I should like to explain this point. According to the rules of procedure the committee is perfectly privileged to submit two amendments to the motion, an amendment to the motion and an amendment to the amendment. But to be properly classified as an amendment to the motion or an amendment to the amendment, it must be based positively on the original motion. The original motion, as I understand it, is to adopt a certain design as a new Canadian flag. In order to be a proper amendment, the amendment should, in my opinion, suggest some design that is displayed or taken from the selection on those boards. Simply to say that a flag should not be selected that has on it the design of the union jack, in my opinion is not an amendment. It is on that basis that I gave my decision. That is about all there is to be said, I think.

Mr. LACROIX: I shall appeal from your decision, Mr. Chairman, and ask that the vote be recorded.

Mr. MATTHEWS: Mr. Chairman, it was a little difficult to catch the amendment owing to the way Mr. LaCroix was standing. Would you mind reading it again?

The CHAIRMAN: The amendment reads:—

Whereas the order of reference to the committee specifically states that it is expedient that Canada possess a distinctive flag, I have the honour to move that no design be considered for a recommendation by this committee for a suitable design for a Canadian distinctive flag which shall include therein the union jack.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

The CHAIRMAN: The question is whether or not the committee shall sustain my ruling. I would ask the clerk to take a registered vote.

All those in favour please signify.

Hon. Mr. ROBINSON: I suppose speaking to anything except your ruling is out of order at the present time?

The CHAIRMAN: I would think so.

Hon. Mr. ROBINSON: In that case I will defer what I have to say until later.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

The CHAIRMAN: All those in favour of the chairman's ruling will signify.

(The Chairman's ruling was sustained.)

Mr. LACROIX: Do I understand from the chairman that I have the privilege of moving two amendments on the flag?

Mr. ENMERSON: We cannot hear.

The CHAIRMAN: As I see it, I think that an amendment to the original motion is in order if it proposes the definite, positive selection of one of the flags on these screens. I think there is also room for a second amendment to the amendment, if necessary. But we are limited, I think, under the rules of procedure, to two amendments.

Mr. BLANCHETTE: Mr. Chairman, like all the other members sitting around the table in this committee, I feel that the work which we accomplish here, once a decision is rendered, will be one of the most important aids in cementing this country together. Each and every one of us in the House, as well as outside of the House, since the proposal was made to create a new Canadian flag, has become flag conscious. It seems to me that the work that will be done by this committee, as I have just stated, will greatly assist in cementing this country together. I know that each and every one of you will admit with me that there is no country today where there seems to be any greater bond of unity than that which exists in the United States. And as each and every one of you know, every morning in the grammar schools and in the high schools of the United States there is a formula which is used by the pupils, which I still remember, pledging allegiance to the American flag. If my memory serves me correctly, it runs in this way:—

I pledge my allegiance to my flag and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation indivisible and justice to all.

That, to my mind, Mr. Chairman, has greatly assisted in establishing in the United States the unity which we find prevailing there today. And upon the work which will be done by this committee will also depend to a great extent the unity which we have all hoped for and which we all hope for in Canada.



As Mr. LaCroix stated, this committee consists of members coming from points scattered throughout the length and breadth of the country. Each of us has his own views in connection with this matter, and in no instance at all would I take it upon myself to say that any member sitting around this table was not sincere in his convictions and in his choice.

There is already a motion before us, and I should like to present as an amendment to that motion that we should accept a flag listed amongst the display placed before us as No. 1-268F, meaning by that the flag that we see before us, red, white and green, with the maple leaf.

A national flag, Mr. Chairman, defines a country so far as it recalls in a particular trait, the aspirations, characteristics and qualities of the people.

It would appear that our country will be aptly symbolized by a flag with the three colours, red, white and green; the first representing the English origin of one part of the Canadian nation; the second, the French origin of the other part; and third, the soil of the dominion where two races live side by side.

These three colours have not been chosen haphazardly. Several reasons militate in favour of the choice.

First, red seems to represent a colour typically English. It has always been used to express the ideas of loftiness, royalty, assurance, ardour and military virtues. Historically it has always been preferred by the English nation. The union jack, indeed, has the red St. George cross. During the Hundred Years' War, the Bourguignons, allied to England, chose as emblem the red cross of St. Andrew. The war of the Two Roses ended with the triumph of the red rose (the house of Lancaster) which after that became an emblem typically English.

White is a colour specifically French. It has always been considered as the symbol of probity and loyalty, virtues eminently French. History proves that white is to the French what red is to the English. The white cross was on the standards of the Armagnacs during the Hundred Years' War. In the XVII century it even became the sign of French allegiance on the flags of the provinces of France (whatever may have been the colour of the background). To the white of the house of the Bourbons was added, during the revolution, the colours of the city of Paris (blue and red) so as to create the actual French flag.

Green signifies fortune, hope and youth. Canada is a young nation. The most promising future seems to be reserved to her, thanks especially to her geographical situation and to the wealth of her soil and mines. We are, hence, really justified in representing the land which shelters the two elements of the Canadian nation by the green.

A disposition very original, both simple and artistic, seems to be that which was also in mind when these colours in this flag were suggested. The flag is divided in the direction of the diagonal, placing the red in the upper triangle so as to symbolize still better the English allegiance of Canada, and the white in the lower triangle which typifies the French element that served as the corner stone in the building of our country. The fact that the two colours touch each other from one extremity to the other indicates the union which exists throughout the country—*'A mari usque ad mare'*—between the two races.

This specimen has been submitted by the National Flag Clubs of Canada; and in deciding upon a flag such as this I think we would be taking into consideration the survey which was made amongst the fighting forces of Canada to the effect that Canada should have a distinctive national flag. Some one has written in connection with Wolfe and Montcalm:—

"Valour gave them a common death; History, a common fame;  
Posterity, a common monument."

Let us give to the descendents of both Wolfe and Montcalm a common national flag.

Mr. GINGUES: Mr. Chairman, I rise to second the amendment to the motion, and I want this committee to believe that there are no prejudices in my heart. We are, I believe, sitting as a group of men upon whom rests the responsibility of giving our country a national emblem. We are going to select a flag not only for a few months or a few years, but for centuries to come. Being of French origin from the province of Quebec, I am pleased to say that for once, on a national issue, our people did not ask us to keep the fleur de lis on the flag, nor to keep anything there which would symbolize the origin of our race in this country. They asked us to give to Canada a distinctive national flag. They asked us, although they have all kinds of admiration for the union jack, not to have the union jack on that flag. I personally have all the admiration a man can have for the union jack. I know of its contribution through the centuries past in maintaining freedom throughout the world; and I know that when war broke out, if it had not been for the British Royal Navy, this northern hemisphere would not exist any more as a democracy.

Gentlemen, we are going to make a decision now, and we are going to give our country and our government an emblem; and as far as I am concerned I want to put myself on record as supporting the selection of an emblem which our children may regard with pride, and which may be taken as a symbol of national unity for all time to come. I think the honourable member for Compton when he was speaking referred to the manner in which school children particularly saluted their flag in the United States. We want to see that same sort of thing here in this country—one country, one flag—indivisible we stand; and, gentlemen, that is what you will see once this committee has made its decision, and once the House has decided on a Canadian flag. I would like to see every child in every school in Canada, in every province of Canada, have pride in holding his national emblem in his hand, a national emblem which would be respected by everyone in this country. And I am sure, gentlemen, that if we succeed in making a selection of a flag of that kind, in twenty-five years from to-day we will have complete national unity. That is our task to-day. That is what we are asked to do now; and I hope in endeavouring to arrive at our final decision we will take that aspect of the matter into consideration. Thank you.

Mr. MacNICOL: Mr. Chairman, was the motion seconded?

The CHAIRMAN: It was not necessary for the motion to be seconded.

Mr. MacNICOL: I am rising to support the motion moved by the honourable member of Wellington South (Mr. Gladstone). At this time I am not going to enter into any historical reference to the matter—

The CHAIRMAN: If I might interrupt you, Mr. MacNicol, I think the amendment really is before the Chair. If you are going to stick to the main motion may I suggest that you do so after the amendment has been disposed of. I wonder if we are going to have any further amendments before opening discussion.

Hon. Mr. ROBINSON: Mr. Chairman, I think the procedure up to the present has been very good. The first duty given to the members of the committee was to select five flags out of the first group placed before us on the screens, with the result that we eliminated about eighteen hundred designs. Of the six hundred odd which came in subsequently we were asked to select one design, bringing the total of selections now before us up to seventy-six—pardon me, I am told that we were allowed two, bringing the total to be dealt with now up to seventy-six. There are thirty-seven members on the committee. I was just wondering whether the members of the committee would not agree that it would be desirable to provide an opportunity for making further selections, and I was going to suggest that we be permitted each to select one additional design. I feel that our responsibility is a very important one, and that we have an important duty to perform in selecting the design of a flag for Canada. I submit,



Mr. Chairman, that it would be unwise for us to attempt to deal either with the motion or the amendment made thereto at the moment, and that it would be better for us to continue our eliminations to a point where they narrow down to one design. I am just advancing that thought for consideration by the committee.

An Hon. MEMBER: Why should not each of us select just one.

Hon. Mr. ROBINSON: As my honourable friend says, we might all select the same one. That is not what I suggest, but we might submit one selection from the seventy-six designs which are before us. That does not mean to say that every man should select a different flag. It would be quite in order for all to select the same flag. But before we make a final decision, I make this suggestion. I do not want to interrupt the procedure you are following, but I am just making that suggestion. I think perhaps if the honourable members will think about it they will agree that it might be a good first step.

Hon. Mr. HOWDEN: Mr. Chairman, I heartily agree with that idea. I think if we proceed with this process of selection and elimination we will arrive at a suitable choice and thereby avoid a good deal of wrangling and ill feeling. I support the suggestion.

Hon. Mr. QUINN: Mr. Chairman, may I say that I concur in what Senator Robinson has said. It would avoid a lot of wrangling and perhaps a lot of unnecessary feeling if we adopt the idea which the honourable senator has advanced. I was very much impressed by the motion made by the honourable gentleman opposite me here (Mr. Blanchette) and his reference to the order of reference which was submitted to this committee, that we proceed with the selection of a distinctive Canadian flag. Now, ever since Confederation we have been flying the red ensign which prominently displays the union jack. May I say, Mr. Chairman, that I take second place to no one on this committee; I take second place to no man or woman in Canada in my allegiance and loyalty to and my admiration for Great Britain and the part she has played down through the centuries; but I submit that that does not mean that we must include the union jack in a distinctive Canadian flag. I do not think the union jack should have any place in a Canadian flag. And, as I said before, I am not displaying the slightest disloyalty whatever to the Mother Country; but as the honourable gentleman opposite has said, we have the colour of England, we have the colour of France and we have the Canadian maple leaf, which I feel is uppermost in the minds of every citizen of Canada as embodying the most suitable and the most favored symbol of this Canadian nation. I am very strongly in favour of something along that line, but I believe with Senator Robinson that we should proceed with our eliminations and have the committee keep on selecting until we have arrived at a definite conclusion.

The CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, a message has just come from the House requiring some of the members to be present because the House is in committee. I was going to suggest, in view of what has just been said and the opinion that has been reflected on the resolution and the amendment, that it might be desirable to adjourn this meeting right away and give another day to the members to concentrate upon a selection from the screens. Now, it was made quite clear I think, by Mr. Harris, the chairman yesterday afternoon, before adjournment that the members would be expected to employ the last twenty-four hours in crystalizing in their own minds a choice from these screens and that they should come here to-day with the idea of making a selection. It is quite evident that the members would like to have another twenty-four hours and I am suggesting what is simply obvious, that we adjourn and proceed as from this point to-morrow with the motion and the amendment before us. I do not wish to force my views on the committee.

Mr. BEAUDOIN: Before we adjourn, Mr. Chairman, I would like to say with respect to the motion and the amendment now before the committee, that the design including the maple leaf may I suggest would not in any way represent an important element of the country, and such a selection might offend a large group of people who would lack the ability to understand it. I think it would be a great error for Canada to have a flag with an emblem whereby Canadians of French origin would not be represented. Therefore, I would like to say that I would support the amendment; and, also, I support the suggestion for adjournment.

Mr. CASTLEDEN: Before we go, would the chairman tell us what the intention is: are we to make a selection of just one design and hand that in; and when that has been done will all the other flags be removed from the screen before we meet to-morrow?

The CHAIRMAN: I think we could arrange to do that through the clerk. And then I think the members should make up their minds between now and the time of our next meeting whether they would like to move any further amendment or amendments.

Mr. REID: Mr. Chairman, may I call attention to the fact that the suggestion that we make one further selection has not been put in the form either of a motion or of an amendment. I think the matter is one which should be given some further thought. I can foresee some difficulty arising if the members are limited to one selection as suggested by Senator Robinson. I see before me three or four different red ensigns with different kinds of maple leaves and they are all displayed differently. For instance, I am looking at one directly in front of me. If we are to be limited to one definite selection then I think we shall have to have some information as to the treatment of the design. I am just pointing out that we should give some further thought to it, particularly if we are to make our final selection.

The CHAIRMAN: I think in connection with the very appropriate suggestion in regard to the flag made by Senator Robinson, and in connection with Mr. Reid's observations, it is really a matter of design which would be subject to further approval and would have to be so referred to in the resolution. That is purely my own personal reaction to Mr. Gladstone's resolution. Let us suppose the committee favours such a procedure and that the selection would be the red ensign with a gold maple leaf in the flag, the whole design would have to be properly proportioned, and special consideration would have to be given to that aspect of it.

Hon. Mr. HOWDEN: There is a definite motion before the Chair.

Hon. Mr. ROBINSON: I will put my suggestion in the form of a motion: I will move that each member be given the opportunity of making the selection of one more design.

Hon. Mr. STIRLING: Now, Mr. Chairman, you cannot do it that way. May I suggest, unless this new suggestion is put in the form of an acceptable amendment we cannot proceed with it. There is a motion and there is an amendment. That is the matter before the committee and that matter must be disposed of before we go off on to something new. If the suggestion of further selection or elimination could be put in the form of an acceptable amendment then it will be a second amendment to the main motion. If that is not possible we have to proceed with what is before the committee now, which is a motion with one amendment.

Hon. Mr. ROBINSON: I realize what the honourable member says about putting my suggestion in the form of an acceptable motion, in the form of an amendment to the amendment. I would like to move, as an amendment to the amendment, that the members be given an opportunity to make one further



selection—or proceed with a further elimination, if you want to call it that—if that is in order.

The CHAIRMAN: I do not think you are in order at the moment.

Hon. Mr. ROBINSON: I don't believe I am either.

The CHAIRMAN: So I would suggest that members make another study of the designs here before making up your minds and that you bring the results of your further study before the committee when it meets again to-morrow. Then, when we have disposed of the matters now before the committee we can consider them. We have to adjourn now and when we meet to-morrow we can proceed right from this point, with this amendment, and when we dispose of that we will deal with the main motion.

Mr. MACNICOL: Before you go on may I ask this, the motion says, "A red ensign with a maple leaf in the fly." The motion in my opinion should read, "a red ensign with a maple leaf on the flag."

The CHAIRMAN: You can deal with that to-morrow.

Mr. HARRIS: That would be the way to do it.

The CHAIRMAN: The committee is adjourned at the call of the Chair.

The committee adjourned at 5.45 o'clock p.m. to meet again at the call of the Chair.





## MINUTES OF EVIDENCE

HOUSE OF COMMONS,

May 9, 1946.

The Joint Special Committee of the Senate and the House of Commons appointed to consider and report upon a suitable design for a distinctive national flag for Canada, met this day at 4 o'clock p.m. Hon. Mr. N. P. Lambert (Chairman of the Senate section), presided.

The CHAIRMAN: Come to order please, gentlemen. Yesterday afternoon at the time of adjournment Senator Robinson was on the floor and he was suggesting that more time be taken in the selection of a flag. I will ask him to proceed with his remarks so that we can resume from exactly where we left off then.

Hon. Mr. ROBINSON: Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, in connection with what I was saying when we adjourned yesterday, may I repeat that I was very well pleased with the progress we had made in our elimination of designs and I think it has been very well handled. I thought it might have been better to have it carried a little further and make some further eliminations. The method I suggested would not necessarily be the one accepted, but perhaps we might proceed until we have a final vote. My reason for making that request at the time was that if that procedure was not to be followed and further eliminations made, then I was going to move an amendment to the amendment to the motion which is now before you. I also felt that it would be only fair and right to all of us before voting to have an opportunity of seeing the flags on which we were voting displayed on a staff so that we might be able to see what they looked like flying in the breeze and in calm air. And with this thought in mind I have prepared an amendment to the amendment. I will read it to you:—

I move, as an amendment to the amendment now before the chair:—

- (1) Flag No. 1729 be selected by this committee as a suitable design for a distinctive national flag for Canada;

And now, Mr. Chairman, my second clause to this amendment to the amendment is possibly not strictly speaking an amendment, but I will read it:—

- (2) Before the members of this committee take a vote on this motion or any amendments thereto to select a flag arrangements be made to have the clerk of the committee have the flags flown on flagstuffs so that all members of this committee may have the opportunity of seeing said flags flown both in breezy and calm weather.

The CHAIRMAN: May I have a copy of that?

Hon. Mr. ROBINSON: Certainly, Mr. Chairman. And now, gentlemen, the flag to which I have been referring is in the right hand corner on the wall over there. (Indicating south end of east wall of the railway committee room).

Mr. REID: Do you mean at the extreme end?

Hon. Mr. ROBINSON: Right at the end, yes. There are four or five designs of large flags on the wall there. I think a great many members of the committee have noticed this flag and perhaps have given some consideration to it. It is submitted by a gentleman from Prince Edward Island. Mr. J. LeRoy Holman. Mr. Holman has forwarded a letter describing the flag, better perhaps than I would be able to, I will not read you all that he says but he covers a lot of

ground; but I will say this, that I believe the design is distinctive. If you see it flown on a flagstaff you may be able to judge how good it is. It is original. It contains a maple leaf, a red maple leaf, which of itself has through two wars come to be accepted without question as the emblem of Canada. Then it has a red border which makes it more noticeable, and the four stripes representing the different sections of Canada, which are equally distinctive. I could go into some considerable detail about the flag but you have no doubt studied it, as well as others; but I believe it has this advantage, that it represents all sections of Canada; it represents the sacrifices and contributions made by the French speaking section of our country as well as the English speaking section, and for that reason I feel it should be accepted as being truly Canadian. We all appreciate that it is an extremely important decision which we have been asked to make. However, I do not believe it would be right to have a flag which did not include something that would be representative of all the people of Canada. That is what I would like particularly to bring to the attention of the committee. I think this flag. If you will just think about it, contains something that will represent the sacrifices and citizenship of all the people of this country, especially the pioneers. I would like to know the views of other members of the committee, but I feel that it is only fair to have the flag displayed on a flagstaff. That is the reason for the second part of this amendment which I now submit.

The CHAIRMAN: Senator Robinson has submitted a resolution in the form of an amendment to the amendment, in two parts. If the committee is agreeable, it would be my view that the second part of the resolution should be dropped from this amendment to the amendment; and if he cares to do so, or if any other member cares to do so, it could be considered as a special or separate resolution after the motion and amendments now before the chair have been disposed of.

Mr. LACROIX: Would you read it to us, please?

The CHAIRMAN: My view is that this as a whole is not an amendment to the amendment. I think the resolution limited to the first part is an amendment to the amendment, but including the second part could not be considered as relative to the main motion.

Some Hon. MEMBERS: Would you read it, please?

The CHAIRMAN: It is moved by Senator Robinson in amendment to the amendment, that:—

(1) Flag No. 1729 be selected by this committee as a suitable design for a distinctive national flag for Canada;

and then:

(2) Before the members of this committee take a vote on this motion or any amendments thereto to select a flag is proceeded with, that arrangements be made to have the Clerk of the Committee have the flags flown on flagstaffs so that all members of this committee may have the opportunity of seeing said flags flown both in breezy and calm weather.

Mr. MACNICOL: (2) If not relevant, there is no use in reading it.

The CHAIRMAN: I will read it just the same.

(2) Before the members of this committee take a vote on this motion or any amendments thereto to select a flag is proceeded with, that arrangements be made to have the Clerk of the Committee have the flags flown on flagstaffs so that all members of this committee may have the opportunity of seeing said flags flown both in breezy and calm weather.

My view is that the second part of that resolution is not a proper part of an amendment to the amendment.



Hon. Mr. DAVIES: Mr. Chairman, I do not think we are going about this thing in the right way. There is something wrong with it, in my opinion. We have had a resolution from Mr. Gladstone, and one from Mr. Blanchette, and if we vote on either one of those resolutions and they pass then we have accepted a flag; we have not had, and we will not get a chance to vote on other designs. I think we should have a little more discussion about it. I have gone over these designs very carefully and my feeling about the matter is this—and one of those which I chose is the one of which Senator Robinson has spoken. I listened very carefully and with a great deal of sympathy to what Mr. Blanchette said yesterday. I happen to be a Welshman, and being a Welshman I know something of how the French people of this country feel with regard to flags. The Welsh are not recognized at all on the union jack with the result that on any public holiday in Wales you have the red dragon flown all over the place. When I looked over these flags I felt that we should try to pick out a flag which would identify the early French pioneers and the large French population of this country of ours. At the same time there was some talk yesterday of peace and unity. I do not think there is any use of crying peace, peace, when there is no peace; and while it might be all very well to adopt a flag that might suit the province of Quebec, to adopt a flag without the union jack would certainly not please people of Ontario, and Ontario is a very large province.

While we are discussing flags, there are two designs which impress me very greatly. They both hang up on the wall over there. One has the union jack in the corner, the white field of France and the maple leaf with the fleur-de-lis on the maple leaf. The other one I like very much is the one with the union jack, the blue field and the three fleur-de-lis. In that way we are recognizing that we are still a very important part of the British Commonwealth of Nations which I think we are all proud of, and we are also recognizing the fact that the early settlers and pioneers of this country were the French people, and that we have a very large French population in this country to-day.

As I said when I got up—and I did not intend to speak so long—if we vote on the red ensign with the maple leaf in the place of the coat of arms, then we have adopted that flag. If we go to this flag over here, with the red and white in diagonal division and the green maple leaf, we have adopted that flag. Neither one of them might be acceptable to all of us. I am wondering by what process of elimination we can get a flag which is acceptable to us all.

The CHAIRMAN: I should like to explain that. I do not think Senator Davies was here yesterday.

Hon. Mr. DAVIES: Yes, I was.

The CHAIRMAN: Did you not gather that it was fairly definitely the opinion of the committee that a motion and two amendments would limit the selection of the committee at first? Then, as the amendment to the amendment was eliminated or approved, the next step would be that, if you wanted to cover other flags by another resolution, it would then be in order to bring an amendment to the amendment, and so on, until you had covered the whole field. There was no effort made to exclude other flags than the three which were referred to.

Hon. Mr. DAVIES: Was not the suggestion made that there should be another process of elimination, another choosing of flags? I went away from that meeting with that in my mind.

Mr. ZAPLITNY: I was here yesterday also, and I certainly do not recollect that any such decision was arrived at as you explained a moment ago, Mr. Chairman. There was no decision. But I certainly feel that we are not going at this in the right way. I feel that each member of the committee should be given one further choice and that would certainly narrow the field down to maybe half, or less than half, of the number of flags that we now have. That

would prevent us from taking a hasty decision and give us more time to consider all the flags. I think that while it may not be strictly in order, we should postpone all the motions, amendments and subamendments, and settle the question of procedure first of all.

Hon. Mr. HOWDEN: Mr. Chairman, I think we ought to try to get down to a little bit of practical politics, if you like to put it that way. Practically every member of this committee has got a choice of a flag. It may be that the choice of several men will coincide; but if they do not coincide, a man convinced against his will retains the same opinion still. You cannot force it down a man's throat so that he is going to be satisfied and like a certain flag, if he does not like it. I do not believe at all in this motion idea we have before the committee. I think these motions should both be voted down; and I think we should proceed to the choice of a flag by the process of eliminating the last flag.

Some Hon. MEMBERS: Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. HOWDEN: Let us proceed by eliminating the last flag, and then we will get somewhere.

Mr. MACNICOL: Mr. Chairman, I agree with some of the remarks made by Dr. Howden, but not all of them. For myself, I have given the flag question a very extensive and exhaustive study. I suppose I have spent in this room not less than 25 hours examining each one of the flags carefully. I believe I have looked over the whole 2,400 flags and looked up what each flag referred to. As far as I am concerned, I am ready to vote at once because I went through a process of elimination to reach a decision. I am speaking for myself. As far as I am concerned, I have arrived at certain definite principles. I believe we had something over—was it 2,400 or how many was it?

The CLERK: 2,409.

Mr. MACNICOL: We have had 2,409 flags. Of those 2,409 flags I, by elimination of what I saw of them, have arrived at certain principles. 1,611 of those flags had the maple leaf on them. So I made up my mind that by far the majority of those who sent in flags wanted the maple leaf on the flag. Therefore I marked as No. 1 choice for myself that the flag must have a maple leaf on it. As compared with the maple leaf, the other matters suggested to go on the flag were, first, stars. 231 flags had stars on them. Our American cousins have stars on their flag. The Australians and New Zealanders have stars on their flags and India has a star on its flag. Of that 2,409 flags, according to my count—and I may be one or two out because it is quite a problem to count 2,409 flags—231 had stars against 1,611 with maple leaves. So the star went out at once. You cannot have both leaves and stars. 184 had the fleur-de-lis on. I must confess that in the commencement I had a very strong preference for the fleur-de-lis. I always liked it. I like it still. But only 184 had the fleur-de-lis on, so I concluded from that, that among the people who sent in flags—and a very large number of them were from the province of Quebec, I presume—the fleur-de-lis was not very popular. Therefore, as far as I was concerned it went out, as against the maple leaf.

A lot of people wanted the beaver before the flags were first mentioned. Out of the 2,409 flags, according to my count—and I may say that (putting on his glasses) when you get past 50 years of age, Mr. Chairman, you will have to wear glasses too.

The CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Mr. MacNicol.

Mr. MACNICOL: Out of the 2,409 flags, 116 had the beaver on, as against 1,611 with the maple leaf. So I said to myself, out goes the beaver. It is not all popular in Canada. 49 had the crown on, so out went the crown. 22 had the cross.

An Hon. MEMBER: Down with the crown.



Mr. MACNICOL: 22 had the cross on, against 1,611 with the maple leaf. So I said to myself, out goes the cross. 14 had the Dipper. I must confess that in the commencement, after studying the question very carefully in England with the Admiralty and with the historians of the *Sphere* and the *Illustrated London News*, I had the feeling that we should follow Australia and New Zealand and have a constellation on. But after observing that only 14 of our flags called for our northern Dipper, I said to myself, out goes the Dipper.

Thus by a process of elimination I arrived at the conclusion that a Canadian flag must have the maple leaf on it, for 1,611 of the 2,409 had the maple leaf thereon. A number had horizontal bars and perpendicular bars. That is of designs as it is on the flag of the United States or on quite a number of flags of Europe. By careful count I found 42 of the 2,409 flags had horizontal bars, 11 had perpendicular bars and 8 had diagonal bars like that over there in the corner. So with reference to the bars, out went the diagonal bars first; out went the perpendicular bars, second; and out went the horizontal bars third.

An Hon. MEMBER: Out with the bars.

Mr. MACNICOL: Out with the bars, yes. Of the 2,409 flags that were presented, 383 had the union jack on. The union jack, next to the maple leaf, was the predominant feature of all the flags submitted. So by a process of elimination again, I said to myself, next to the maple leaf the flag should have the union jack on it according to the flags sent in. I want to say, Mr. Chairman, that I want to congratulate every one who sent flags in, and I want to congratulate the committee, too, for the time that the members of the committee have spent in studying the flags. I presume others have arrived at some conclusions, the same as I have. As I say, 383 had the union jack on. So next to the maple leaf I said to myself, by elimination, that the flag should have the union jack on it, if I were to support the majority of those who sent flags in for the whole of Canada as they were asked to send flags in; the union jack was next by a very great majority. Of that number of 383, 202 had the jack in the upper left-hand corner, like that and like that and like that (indicating). I do not mean that I am for any one of those flags there, but 202 out of the 383 had the jack in the right place. So I said to myself, by elimination, any flag must have the union jack in the upper left-hand corner next the staff instead of being, as it was on quite a number of the other flags, somewhere else on the flag, as it is in the flag of South Africa.

In the last lot of flags that came in, 44 of those flags have the union jack on them. How many were there? Was it 76?

The CLERK: 76.

Mr. MACNICOL: Yes. Over one-half had the union jack on. So by process of elimination again, I said to myself, I have got to stick to the union jack because the great majority, 47,—I said 44, but it is 47—had the union jack on. Therefore to follow in line with the great majority of those who sent in designs, I would have, for my part in trying to obtain a flag, to try to obtain a flag with the union jack in the upper left-hand corner next to the staff in any event and a maple leaf on the field.

As to the single flags like that one there with the union jack, the red ensign and the maple leaf on the fly, my own mind is not particularly made up as to the colour the maple leaf should be. I take the stand if the committee in its wisdom or otherwise selects the red ensign with the maple leaf on it, I would imagine then, Mr. Chairman, we should call in those in the naval department—they have them in England; I do not know whether they have them here or not—who are conversant with the size the jack should be, and what the colour of the leaf should be, so that there would be the proper relation of symmetry as to the colour of the leaf and the colour of the flag.

All those things are secondary to me, though. It seems to me, at the moment, that the main thing for you to do is to try to select a design; and I am supporting the red ensign with the union jack and the maple leaf on.

In these last flags, 7 had stars, 2 of them had the beaver and 6 had the fleur de lis. I am not going to enter at this time into any history of the flags or what is behind the union jack. That is something else. At the moment I have done my very best to look over all the flags, and I have looked over every one of them, to arrive at a choice of design. That is why I support the motion. The motion conforms with my own careful study of the 2,409 flags. As a result of that study, the red ensign with the maple leaf on the fly by far surpasses in popularity any other flag presented. I have nothing but the highest respect for all those who have supported other flags. As to the flag mentioned by my honourable friend here yesterday and moved by Mr. Blanchette, I want to compliment all those behind that flag. I have had from my honourable friend's riding (Mr. LaCroix) 146 letters containing an example of that flag, a very pretty flag. I know that in his riding of Quebec-Montmorency a lot of people want that flag. If I had in any way tried to stir up the people in my own riding, I should likely have received from Davenport riding, an old-country riding very largely, several thousand letters asking for the red ensign. But I went to no effort of that kind. I felt that it was the committee's business. I quite welcome this. I have no objection to receiving literature from outside whatsoever. But my opinion is based on my own survey. That is the only thing that influences me. As I have said to the committee, my opinion is based on my judgment, and my opinion is based on what I saw of 2,409 flags.

The CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, if you will permit me I should like to keep this discussion for the time being to the point of procedure with which the meeting opened a few minutes ago. Two days ago when Mr. Harris was presiding over the committee it was pointed out at the conclusion of that meeting—and I think met with the general agreement of everybody present—that the 76 flags that were ranged about the room that night would be put in this form, and that twenty-four hours later, which was yesterday, the members would be asked to come back after having seen them in that form prepared to make a selection.

Yesterday when we met again, and I was presiding as I am to-day because Mr. Harris had to attend a funeral in his riding and left this meeting to me, it was agreed upon that the order of procedure would be that there could be a motion and two amendments considered and that no other matters would be taken up until those amendments and the motion were disposed of. That also was based on the understanding that it did not preclude members from bringing in other amendments to the amendment as they were disposed of. We have a motion, we have an amendment, and we have an amendment to the amendment now before us. Incidentally that last amendment to the amendment, which Senator Robinson presented, is now before the meeting. I think before we do anything else we will have to make a decision as to whether or not you want the second section of his amendment considered as a part of it, or whether it should be left over until later as a matter of detail. My point is that if this amendment to the amendment is accepted then it is open for discussion here, it can be voted upon, and if it is eliminated then there is room for another amendment to the amendment. In that way you can cover the whole series of flags if you wish to, but I do not think that at this moment it is proper to embark upon speeches extolling or otherwise the virtues of the respective flags that are represented in these resolutions. I should like to have your final advice on this matter of procedure because I think it is the basis of everything.

Mr. REID: Speaking to the amendment I think your advice to the committee to delete the latter part of the amendment put forward by Senator



Robinson is wise. I have been considering the practicability of the latter suggestion in his motion of flying the three choices that have been put forward to this committee, and I think I see a great deal of misleading information going forth. All the members would have to be around when it was a calm day, and then we would all have to come around on a wild day. I am thinking about carrying out that kind of suggestion. My own view is that Senator Robinson's amendment should be kept to the first part of it and that he should delete the second part for the time being and let us deal with the choices.

Mr. HERRIDGE: Briefly I want to support the view of those who think that this is a most cumbersome method of selecting a flag. Personally I think we should vote down the amendments and the resolution. I think there should be some procedure devised for us to vote again upon the flags that have been chosen, and continually narrow them down until we have half a dozen before the committee. I am in this position—and I think some other members of the committee are in the same position—that while in general we support one of these flags, or possibly two, there is no flag here that actually represents what we should like to see finally decided on. It may mean that after the selection of half a dozen there would have to be some arrangement made for a composite design which could include features that are on one, two or three of these flags. Therefore I would suggest that we vote down the amendments and the resolution.

Mr. LACROIX: Following the speech made by Mr. MacNicol a moment ago, to which I have been listening very carefully, may I ask two questions of the chairman or the clerk of the committee? How many designs have been received by the Department of National Defence?

The CHAIRMAN: Ninety-six.

Mr. LACROIX: They were mostly all union jacks. That is the answer to Mr. MacNicol, that the same organization has sent in and submitted to us 96 designs including the union jack. There is another question that I want to ask. Did you receive a resolution from the Quebec provincial government mentioning the fact that in the provincial legislature they have passed a motion unanimously in favour of choosing a design without the union jack?

The CHAIRMAN: There has not been any official communication received.

Mr. LACROIX: No communication of that sort?

The CHAIRMAN: No.

Hon. Mr. STIRLING: If I understand Mr. LaCroix aright it seems to me that he has fallen into an error in thinking that the Department of National Defence sent in any designs. Is that what I understood you to say?

Mr. LACROIX: They have sent 96 designs.

Hon. Mr. STIRLING: I was endeavouring to make that point at a previous meeting. These flags which have been referred to as coming from the Department of National Defence were merely flags sent in by the public to the Department of National Defence in 1925 when the question of a national flag came before the people abortively. I think I am right in saying that it has nothing whatever to do with the Department of National Defence. It was merely the custodian of those flags which were then sent in.

Mr. LACROIX: They were sent just the same.

Hon. Mr. STIRLING: Yes, but they received them just as custodians.

The CHAIRMAN: Over a period of years.

Hon. Mr. STIRLING: Just as the Clerk of the House might have received them and then passed them over to this committee.

Hon. Mr. QUINN: They are not the submission of the Department of National Defence.

Hon. Mr. STIRLING: By no means. There is another matter I should like to draw to the attention of the committee. Earlier in our proceedings it was stated that at a certain time we should have the advantage of advice from students of heraldry and people of artistic experience to guide us on the fundamentals of flag choosing. I should like to know at what stage we are going to have the assistance of that advice because if it is going to be of any assistance to us it seems to me we should have it before we begin to eliminate anything.

Mr. CASTLEDEN: It appears to me that we have come to an impasse in the debate as it has developed up to the present time. I am going to suggest as a matter of procedure that the present motion and the amendments now before the committee be tabled until we have made a further elimination and have had before the committee witnesses such as Mr. Stirling suggested to give us some direction on heraldry as to the flags that are left. I would then suggest following that in order to eliminate any recrimination at our meetings that we carry out a system of elimination perhaps through some sort of transferable ballot with each member being given the right to have one vote on each of two flags, that we agree on some procedure that all flags not receiving six votes, let us say, should be wiped out and taken off the boards, and that such a process be continued until we have come down to half a dozen flags.

Hon. Mr. HOWDEN: Why not just one flag?

Mr. CASTLEDEN: I am quite agreeable to that. I am only suggesting the process. Therefore I would move that the present motion and amendments be tabled.

The CHAIRMAN: Before I put that motion is it understood by the committee now as a whole that it wishes to revoke completely the steps that it took yesterday in the form of the motion and the amendment to that motion? If we are to completely revoke what has been decided upon at previous meetings then I think it should be very clear before doing that just what concrete procedure you intend to follow from now on. We have had the advice of Colonel Duguid for two or three hours on the whole history of heraldry. It is on the record for anybody to read. Just what addition to that could be made with reference to the 76 flags that are here I think might be offered by way of suggestion in our planning of the future steps that the committee should take.

I think it is a rather precipitate step at this stage, when we were all agreed upon the necessity of bringing this whole thing to a head and when we had the opportunity with these selections narrowed down, to wipe the whole thing off and start again where we were at the beginning. I mention that for the sake of asking the committee to give some serious thought to the constructive steps that should be taken in trying to resolve this matter with some finality within a reasonable time.

Mr. EMMERSON: In supporting the motion put forward by the member from Yorkton (Mr. Castleden) I should like to say that my first reaction yesterday when I came into the meeting was that we were then taking somewhat precipitate action in putting forward a motion for the selection of a particular flag because my understanding from the beginning was that we had decided upon a process of elimination and that we would continue it as far as we could. I am rather in favour of the motion that has been put forward in order that we may proceed with that elimination.

Hon. Mr. HOWDEN: On a point of order may I suggest to you, Mr. Chairman, that the position we find ourselves in now is that we have an original motion, an amendment to the motion, and an amendment to the amendment. Now someone brings along another motion which is entirely out of order. After



the amendment to the amendment has been dealt with if it is accepted by this meeting that would end it but if it is defeated then we would be open for another amendment to the amendment which might embody what has been suggested by Mr. Castleden.

The CHAIRMAN: I should like to point out that the amendment to the amendment which Colonel Robinson submitted is quite all right. It is in order and it is accepted. The understanding when we started out on this procedure was that there would be a motion and two amendments.

Hon. Mr. HOWDEN: We cannot get any further until this is dealt with.

The CHAIRMAN: There is one point that is not settled yet. I think that if Colonel Robinson would withdraw the second part of his amendment for consideration separately then you would have the whole situation in a position where you could deal with it.

Mr. EMMERSON: Speaking on a point of order, the difficulty is that if we vote on any of these motions and defeat them it eliminates those flags from consideration. My opinion is that they should still be considered, that we should proceed to make our selections, eliminate flags and get down to a smaller number.

The CHAIRMAN: I do not propose to have a vote on these amendments until the whole question that you are raising is settled, but in order to have this amendment to the amendment properly recorded in a form that would be in order I am suggesting—and I think that the committee will agree with me—that part two of it is not relevant to the subject matter.

Hon. Mr. ROBINSON: In moving this amendment to the amendment to-day I might say that yesterday when I first spoke I stated then that a process of elimination to a somewhat smaller number of flags should be continued. If it will expedite things and enable us to proceed in that direction I would be quite willing to withdraw the amendment to the amendment that I have moved. I will withdraw that. I feel that the second half of my amendment is important because I really believe in that principle. I do not care what flag is decided upon, I feel that we should see the flags outside in the breeze. We will be here for quite a few months and I think we have plenty of time. We will have rainy days and fine days and windy days; we have all had an opportunity to judge the red ensign and we know what it looks like in the breeze; so I shall be quite satisfied to withdraw the entire motion for the present.

The CHAIRMAN: I can assure you, Senator Robinson, that the point that you make about flying the flags at the staff will be considered by this committee; whether they want it done or not is another matter; but I certainly would feel that it is our duty to consider your suggestion in the proper place and in a place that would not interfere in any way with your original idea. If you wish to withdraw the amendment to the amendment I have no alternative but to accept your offer.

Hon. Mr. ROBINSON: I feel that it might be the best thing to do.

The CHAIRMAN: Now, then, we can proceed with the whole question of whether or not the mover of the amendment to the motion wishes to withdraw his amendment and then whether the mover of the motion wishes to withdraw his motion; and after that we can proceed with the problem of how we are to proceed from then on as regards the process of elimination. I suggest that those who have suggested a further process of elimination to the committee should commit their suggestions very definitely to paper and give us something concrete to go on. Now, would the mover of the amendment to the motion care to consider withdrawing his amendment?

Mr. BLANCHETTE: Mr. Chairman, now that the subamendment has been withdrawn I am just wondering whether it would not be possible for the com-

mittee to proceed along the line of elimination suggested by Mr. Castleden as a subamendment to the amendment?

The CHAIRMAN: I am open to the opinion of the committee on that, but I think we are in a very inconsistent position if we allow Senator Robinson to withdraw his amendment to the amendment for the purpose of a further process of elimination and still leave two other resolutions before us.

Mr. BEAUDOIN: Mr. Chairman, may I ask you if the flag which is referred to in the main motion is one of the flags which is now being shown on the board and what number is referred to? The flag which is presented by Mr. Blanchette is that flag which is on the board and which we can see, and it is No. so-and-so in the catalogue. Now, I should like to know if the flag which is introduced by the main motion is also on the board and what number it carries.

The CHAIRMAN: I think the flag referred to in the amendment was No. 268 and the flag that was referred to in the motion was No. 418. Mr. Gladstone made the motion.

Mr. GLADSTONE: Mr. Chairman, there are many submissions of designs of the Canadian red ensign with the maple leaf replacing the coat of arms. The intention of the motion is that we designate any one of those submissions; that a flag of that type should be selected and properly designed by an expert in flag designing.

Mr. BEAUDOIN: If the motion covers a flag which is not being shown there I think it is out of order because we are asked to follow a procedure whereby we are going to eliminate all the flags, mentioning them specifically by their number on the catalogue, against the main motion which does not refer to any particular flag. I think if we are to proceed with further elimination according to the procedure which has been suggested by one member of the committee that the main motion should refer to one flag which is on that board, and that against that main motion we proceed to eliminate all the others. In the circumstances, I do not know how many members of the committee share my views, but after listening carefully to what has been said by previous members I should think that under the circumstances we should not be delayed very much longer—I think it would save time—if the mover would consent to withdraw his motion so that the committee may be permitted to proceed to a further elimination. I take that stand, and I would like to have your ruling on it, that the main motion should introduce a flag which is on that board. If we do not come to an agreement on the main motion which would specify one flag on that board then we could make recommendations and suggest to heraldry experts some elements and ask them to make a flag, and then we could go on with our discussion. That would mean that we had eliminated all the flags which have been sent to us by the public.

Mr. REID: Mr. Chairman, Mr. Beaudoin has brought up a point which I was going to deal with. When Mr. MacNicol spoke he gave a résumé or a breakdown of all the flags there and that involved a competition of flags. This committee is not bound by the flags that have been sent in, and one could start an argument that so many flags had come in with one design and so many with another. This committee is not bound by one flag on that board, we are the flag committee; and even if there was not a flag on that board any member could get up and propose a flag. I wish to draw to the attention of the committee the fact that this committee is not allowing any display to run the committee; they are simply a guide to us. Had we gone out and asked the people of Canada to send in designs, I think the committee would have stood by the people of Canada sending in the designs; but knowing that we were choosing a flag many people—2,409 of them—took the trouble and the time to send us flags. Now, we are deliberating, and a proposition has been put forward by Mr. Beaudoin that unless



a flag is on that board that it be not entertained. I am raising an objection to that.

Mr. BEAUDOIN: May I explain my statement to Mr. Reid? We decided that after a certain date no more flags would be accepted from the public, and then we set another date, and another series of flags which were accepted were put up. Our work so far has been confined to the flags which have been put on these boards. I agree with Mr. Reid that we are not bound to select a flag from those boards, but I think at this point the mover should introduce a flag which is on that board and we should try to eliminate the other flags against the main motion. After that if the committee wanted to bring in another flag or wanted to ask the advice of experts, eliminating completely all the flags suggested by the public, then we can go on and select a flag which is not shown there at all. I agree with Mr. Reid, but I say at this point that we cannot proceed that way.

The CHAIRMAN: I will remind you, gentlemen, that the steps which have been taken up to this point were not taken arbitrarily by your chairmen, either Mr. Harris or myself; those steps were decided upon very definitely. In the first place there was to be a week or two given for all the members to make five selections from the flags on the screen, which were then running around 1800. They did so. Those were boiled down to 55, I think. Then 621 more flags came along and it was agreed that we would have a little more time to ballot on those. The result was that in the final analysis 55 plus the extra ones that were selected were brought along for balloting; another choice was taken and we got 76. Now, if you are not satisfied with the 76 that you have selected then we can erect the 2,400 again and go through the balloting again. That is really what you are suggesting.

Mr. REID: That is a very unfair statement. I rose to a point of order. There were 2,409 flags and no man on this committee has imagination enough to create a new 2,400 designs. There is nothing new, and we are content to choose from them.

The CHAIRMAN: Is it understood that these 76 flags here now constitute the field for selection?

Mr. CASTLEDEN: That does not exclude the making of another design by the committee?

The CHAIRMAN: Oh, no, not at all. I do not think anybody ever suggested that. But I think we must get a very definite point on which we can agree in the number that we are going to select from. That is all. These 76 flags constitute the range of selection satisfactory to this committee; let us go on from there.

Mr. HANSELL: Mr. Chairman, may I rise to a point of order? We have a motion and an amendment, but the feeling among some members is that we should continue to a process of elimination and eliminate a few more. Therefore I see nothing out of order in Mr. Castleden's motion that the present motion and amendment be placed upon the table for the time being; they are only being held in abeyance so that the way is cleared then for us to choose; each one could choose a flag or whatever number it might be. You can then lift the motion and the amendment from the table together with the few choices you then have. I believe that if you did that it would solve the matter and we would return, perhaps, with 15 flags left or perhaps a dozen.

Mr. GLADSTONE: Among the many similar designs submitted of the Canadian red ensign with the maple leaf in the fly I would indicate No. 797 as typical of a Canadian red ensign with the maple leaf in the fly.

Mr. BEAUDOIN: I would like to know what time that flag came in.

The CHAIRMAN: It has been there all the time. I am of the opinion that the flag was included in the 76 flags from the very time these screens were placed in this position; that was the beginning of this week.

Mr. LACROIX: Can one amend the main motion after the motion has been put by the chair?

Hon. Mr. HOWDEN: I am afraid that we are largely evading or refusing to recognize facts. There are apparently two great bodies of opinion in this committee as to what the flag should be or should not be. The point on which we are divided is, shall our flag have or shall it not have a union jack on it. Now then, if there is a vast body of opinion in Canada that does not want a union jack, and a vast body of opinion in Canada that does want a union jack, it seems to me to be the apparent duty of this committee to try to unite these two bodies of opinion on something on which they can agree.

Some Hon. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

Hon. Mr. HOWDEN: Now, as a matter of fact, that is just where we are at. We might as well acknowledge it. There is no question about it in the world. We do not care a continental damn about all these flags. The sole point there is, shall we or shall we not have a union jack. Until we can decide our differences on that matter, we are not going to get anywhere. For that reason, the sooner we eliminate the vast majority of these flag designs the better.

The CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, there is a motion before this committee now, and it is to table the motion and the amendment, and I am going to ask the committee to express its opinion on that motion before we discuss this thing any further.

Mr. GINGRES: Would you read the motion again?

Mr. CASTLEDEN: The motion is that the motion and the amendments now before the committee be tabled for the time being.

The CHAIRMAN: You have heard the resolution. It has been moved by Mr. Castleden that the original motion and the amendments which are now before the committee for consideration be tabled for the time being.

Mr. MACNICOL: Mr. Chairman, I am opposed to that. This committee has been sitting for—how long is it now?

The CHAIRMAN: We have been sitting for a month.

Mr. MACNICOL: Yes, for a month, the flags have been put up here I suppose for the same length of time, and for my part I have spent all the time I wish to spend on selecting flags. The designs have been examined by each and every member of the committee or should have been and a limited group are before the committee now from which to make a final selection. If this motion carries we will have to start all over again, and if we do that we will never get any further through more sittings of the kind we have had.

Mr. MATTHEWS: I am pleased to second Mr. Castleden's motion.

The CHAIRMAN: That is not necessary. Gentlemen, you have heard the motion, I will ask those in favour of the motion to table the motion and the amendment for the time being to please raise their hands. Those opposed?

I declare the motion carried.

Mr. CASTLEDEN: My purpose in moving that was so that the committee might go on with the process of elimination. I suggest this procedure, that the process of elimination of those designs still before the committee be continued until there are not more than five designs left. I would suggest further that that elimination might be done through a series of ballots by the members of the committee. For instance, to give an example, supposing each member would give one vote for each of five choices, then for three, and two and so on down to one—whatever you decide—those choices to be handed in to the



secretary; and with respect to each ballot he be instructed to take down any flags which have not received more than a certain number of votes, —say those which have received three votes or less—they would be eliminated from the boards. You can change the number to suit the committee. Then another ballot can take place until finally you would have five left. Then the final job left to the committee would be that of selecting a design from among the last five which would remain on the board.

The CHAIRMAN: Are there any other suggestions?

Mr. SMITH: I have one suggestion to make which I think might save time. I suggest that on the first ballot we eliminate so many, that on the next ballot we eliminate another group, and so on; and in that way we would get down to definite action.

The CHAIRMAN: Has anyone else got any suggestion to make?

Mr. GLADSTONE: Mr. Chairman, I would suggest that the three flags which have been under discussion be placed on one board and that the members try quickly to select two other flags to be placed on the same board, and that we then try to reach a decision from amongst the five.

Mr. ZAPLITNY: Mr. Chairman, I think the first ballot will cut down the range of selections very substantially. I suggest that we do that and that after we have made our first choices by ballot that we proceed with the next. If necessary, I will make a motion that each member of the committee be given one choice.

Mr. LACROIX: Now, Mr. Chairman, we have come to a decision which means a further selection. May I make this suggestion; as I understand the proposal of my friend it is that we should go on and make a final selection. Before we do that, I think we should make a decision as to certain principles by which we will be guided in our final choice of a design. I would move by resolution, which I think is in order now: that whereas the order of reference specifically states that it is expedient that Canada possess a distinctive flag, I have the honour to move that no design be considered for recommendation by this committee as a suitable design for a distinctive Canadian flag which shall include therein the union jack or the fleur-de-lis. And, Mr. Chairman, I ask a recorded vote on that motion. As I stated yesterday, we have received from the Provincial Government a resolution, passed unanimously by the Provincial Legislature, in favour of a design which does not include the union jack. I do not agree with my friend Mr. MacNicol when he says that according to the designs which have been selected or submitted up to now a majority contain the union jack. As I said before, there have been ninety-five designs sent in by the Department of National Defence; I would not say by the Department of National Defence, rather through the Department of National Defence.

Mr. McCULLOCH: No.

Mr. LACROIX: Well, through that channel.

Mr. McCULLOCH: Then were sent by the public.

Mr. LACROIX: But anyway they were sent over here from the Department of National Defence.

The CHAIRMAN: Just a moment. Yesterday, when this same resolution was offered I ruled it out of order on the ground that it was negative and did not include any constructive suggestions with regard to the flags which have been selected from these screens as the result of the various votes. To-day it was agreed that further selections would be confined to these seventy-six flags, and my view is that there are even stronger grounds to-day for declaring the motion by Mr. LaCroix out of order than there were yesterday, because he is still afraid to make a positive suggestion about any flag on these screens, and I do

not think that it is contributing anything to our discussion to take a negative attitude toward everything on it. Therefore, I rule the motion out of order.

Mr. ZAPLITNY: Mr. Chairman, I made a motion. I do not know whether you heard me at the time or not, but I now have it in written form: that each member of the committee be asked to make one choice and that all of those not chosen be struck from the board.

The CHAIRMAN: Mr. Zaplithy has made a motion that each member of the committee be permitted to make one choice and that those not chosen be dropped from the board.

Hon. Mr. HOWDEN: Hear, hear, that is a start.

Mr. MACNICOL: Mr. Chairman, I think the motion should differentiate more. We have on these boards quite a number of red ensigns with a maple leaf in the field. They are all drawn, at least most of them are drawn by inexperienced folks and some are out of proportion. There is a flag there (pointing) on which the jack is entirely out of proportion to the field. Some of the other red ensigns are the same way. I would move in amendment to that motion that in making a selection that in any reference to any red ensign with a maple leaf in the fly it be understood that the design would be subject to any revision necessary to make it properly proportionate.

The CHAIRMAN: May I suggest, now that we have taken a new look at this whole situation, that as the committee will require a little more time than we felt we would take before we reach a conclusion, that a small sub-committee be appointed to decide upon some course of procedure, at least to consider a course of procedure, and to bring in a recommendation to a meeting of this committee on Monday, or Tuesday, when they meet again.

Mr. LACROIX: I am entirely opposed to that, Mr. Chairman, because it will mean that they will sit in camera. I will not say that you will try to railroad the choice, but I am a little bit afraid that is what would be the result. I think we should go on in the way we have already been proceeding.

The CHAIRMAN: The committee would still have an opportunity of accepting or rejecting any recommendation. I think there is a good deal of confusion in the minds of the committee about the method to be followed.

Mr. LACROIX: Suppose that committee comes back with a recommendation which will exclude that flag. We will be only voting for one flag; that is all.

Mr. MATTHEWS: If this motion carries, it seems to me that it is quite possible for us in five minutes to turn in our choice to the secretary.

The CHAIRMAN: The motion before the committee now is that each member of the committee be permitted to make one choice and all those not chosen be dropped from the board.

Mr. MACNICOL: Does that just mean the design to be specified?

Mr. CASTLEDEN: Just the design.

Mr. MACNICOL: You do not have to put the numbers on the flag?

Some Hon. MEMBERS: Yes.

The CHAIRMAN: Is the motion carried?

(Motion agreed to.)

Mr. MACNICOL: I want clarification. Does it mean design?

Mr. McCULLOCH: Yes.

Mr. MACNICOL: I heard someone say yes.

The CHAIRMAN: This motion has been carried, and the question now raised is this, and I think it is a very important question. It does not conflict with the motion. This motion is that each member of the committee shall be permitted to make one choice and all the others will be dropped from the board. In



making the choice the question has been raised as to whether or not the choice should be by number of the flag specifically or, where there is a design with more than one number attached to it, it be by design. I think it is quite clear that there are a number of flags suggested in connection with the red ensign, that last number that was pointed out.

Hon. Mr. DAVIES: They are all different numbers.

Hon. Mr. HOWDEN: We have to give the number. There is no other way in which we can identify the flag.

The CHAIRMAN: I should like to point out that, regardless of what the choice of the committee may be, I think in the end you will find that we will need to have a subcommittee appointed to see that that design is properly placed upon a flag at large, so that it will be subject to some alteration in any case.

Mr. SMITH (*Calgary West*): I am going to move that this motion be carried and that you appoint a subcommittee to design the procedure from there on. That will avoid our coming back again after we have had this first vote.

Mr. LACROIX: No, not at all.

The CHAIRMAN: That motion would be in order, I think, after the vote is taken.

Mr. BEAUDOIN: With regard to the motion introduced by Mr. Zaplitny, has it been decided to refer to a certain flag by number?

The CHAIRMAN: I did not catch that.

Mr. BEAUDOIN: Has it been decided that we will have to refer to the one flag we are allowed to select again, by the number?

The CHAIRMAN: That is correct, yes. I would also suggest that the members agree to sign their names to the ballot on which they make their choice.

Mr. BEAUDOIN: Would I be right in understanding it would mean also the complete suggestion made by one person?

The CHAIRMAN: One person, one choice.

Mr. BEAUDOIN: The secretary of the committee might have given different numbers to designs belonging to a family of flags which have been introduced by only one person. I am referring to the family of flags presented by Mr. Savage, of Duncan, B.C. I should like to introduce that family of flags. I want to know if that family carries any number.

Mr. REID: I can see no danger in confusing the flag by choosing the number from the board, because when we come to the final selection, if it is not the exact shape or is not the exact colour, it will be mortifying. But I can see no danger in this committee choosing from the board any design by number.

The CHAIRMAN: Is that agreed?

Some Hon. MEMBERS: Agreed.

Mr. MACNICOL: Mr. Chairman, I must insist in protesting against that. We have here 22 flags with the union jack, the red ensign, that were largely drawn by amateurs. If I voted 22 times I would pick the whole 22, but I will pick one if I vote only once, and I would pick 797. Somebody else might pick something else. It should be the design. After all, the flag that is flying at the top of these buildings is the design, the red ensign, with the coat of arms on the fly. If we are going to take designs, it should be the red ensign with the maple leaf on the fly; that is all. With that I will be content.

Mr. BEAUDOIN: By number it is. All right, I am satisfied.

The CHAIRMAN: Do not let there be any confusion about the way this thing is going to be handled.

Mr. LACROIX: Did I understand that after the selection has been made, we would be free to choose a flag in the committee? That is, after the selection?

The CHAIRMAN: Quite.

Mr. LACROIX: Is that quite clear?

The CHAIRMAN: Is it to be understood that the result of this vote is final?

Mr. LACROIX: No, it is not final. That is the fact. We will have to choose a flag out of all those selected by members of the committee.

The CHAIRMAN: But there are 37 members on this committee. If there are 37 choices made, being the first choices distributed over possibly 5 flags, say, for the purpose of argument, when the vote on those 5 flags is taken and recorded, it is agreed that the flag receiving the largest number of votes is the one we select in this committee?

Some Hon. MEMBERS: No, no.

Mr. LACROIX: No, not at all.

The CHAIRMAN: Well, I am just asking

Hon. Mr. ROBINSON: Mr. Chairman, as I understood it, we are now proceeding as in the past on this, because we will select one flag; that is, each man will select one flag. It may be that the whole 37 would only select 15 or 20, but we would select 1 flag each. Then we meet again and carry on a further method of decision.

Mr. LACROIX: Yes, that is right.

The CHAIRMAN: I do not think you have made it clear, yet.

Hon. Mr. HOWDEN: By successive ballots.

Hon. Mr. ROBINSON: That would be the next step.

Mr. LACROIX: Selection by each member will not be the vote.

The CHAIRMAN: May we agree on this course, that this vote be taken, then the result of this vote be made known to the committee and the committee act afterwards on that as to the course they want to follow?

Mr. LACROIX: Exactly.

The CHAIRMAN: Very well.

Mr. MACNICOL: The understanding is that if I am voting for the red ensign, all I need to do is write "red ensign with the maple leaf" but that I am not selecting that flag (pointing to one), although I adopt the principle.

Mr. REID: Are you setting some time, Mr. Chairman, or do you want the numbers now from the committee?

The CHAIRMAN: Well, I am open to suggestions from the committee. Do you want to make this vote now?

Some Hon. MEMBERS: No, no.

Hon. Mr. HOWDEN: I move that the vote be taken now.

Mr. LACROIX: I move that we adjourn.

The CHAIRMAN: There are two suggestions, gentlemen. Dr. Howden moves that the vote be taken now and Mr. LaCroix moves adjournment of the committee. Which do you want to do?

Mr. LACROIX: We should adjourn.

Mr. ZAPLITNY: Mr. Chairman, if I may speak to the motion, although I was the one who moved it, I want to make clear first of all, as there seems to be some misunderstanding yet as to the effect of it, that the intention of the motion is that every flag which is mentioned in the vote by anyone is left on the board. All others are dropped.

Some Hon. MEMBERS: Hear, hear.

The CHAIRMAN: That is right.



Mr. ZAPLITNY: As to the time we vote, I would suggest that we must set some time limit as to when the vote must be in before we adjourn, because if we adjourn now, we will have nothing left before the committee at all.

The CHAIRMAN: That is a point that should be decided now, as to how long you want to take to make that vote.

An Hon. MEMBER: Tomorrow.

The CHAIRMAN: What about Tuesday?

Mr. LAFONTAINE: Tuesday.

The CHAIRMAN: By Tuesday noon?

Mr. REID: My reason for suggesting now is that if we meet tomorrow, the elimination could have taken place, and the committee would be meeting to make the choice of the committee.

Mr. LACROIX: I suggest another week.

The CHAIRMAN: Just a minute. If you would take until Tuesday noon in which to make your votes and deposit them with the secretary, you would give him an opportunity to record the vote, and prepare a report for the committee. Is it agreed that you have until Tuesday next to make your vote?

Some Hon. MEMBERS: Agreed.

Mr. LACROIX: Mr. Chairman, you should not use the word "vote", you should use the word "selection", which is quite different.

The CHAIRMAN: Very well; your record of selection. One selection to each member, by Tuesday noon.

Hon. Mr. DAVIES: Do we sign our names to this ballot?

Mr. McCULLOCH: Yes.

The CHAIRMAN: It has been agreed that everybody signs his name and that a ballot that comes in unsigned will be spoiled.

Mr. LACROIX: I move that we adjourn.

Hon. Mr. STIRLING: Then would the idea be to meet on Tuesday?

The CHAIRMAN: At the call of the chair.

The committee adjourned at 5.25 p.m. to meet again at the call of the chair.





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Senate and House of Commons in a,  
1946

(SESSION 1946)



(JOINT COMMITTEE OF THE SENATE AND  
THE HOUSE OF COMMONS

Appointed to Consider and Report Upon  
a Suitable Design for a Distinctive

NATIONAL FLAG  
FOR CANADA )

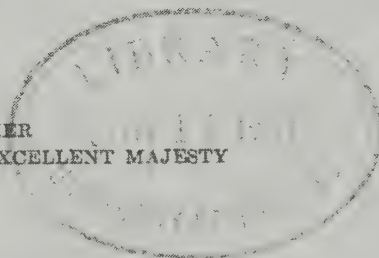
MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AND EVIDENCE

No. 3

TUESDAY, MAY 14, 1946

WEDNESDAY, MAY 15, 1946

OTTAWA  
EDMOND CLOUTIER  
PRINTER TO THE KING'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY  
1946







## MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

HOUSE OF COMMONS, Room 277,

TUESDAY, May 14, 1946.

The Joint Committee of the Senate and the House of Commons appointed to consider and report upon a suitable design for a distinctive national flag for Canada, met this day at 4 p.m. Honourable Senator N. P. Lambert, Chairman of the Senate section, presided.

*Present:*

*The Senate:* Honourable Senators Aseltine, Davies, Gouin, Howden, Johnston, Lambert, Leger, Quinn, Robinson, White.

*The House of Commons:* Messrs. Beaudoin, Blanchette, Castleden, Emmerson, Gingues, Gladstone, Hansell, Harris (*Grey-Bruce*), Herridge, LaCroix, Lafontaine, Macdonnell (*Muskoka-Ontario*), MacNicol, Matthews (*Brandon*), McIvor, Reid, Smith (*Calgary-West*), Stanfield, Stirling, Warren, Zaplitny.

The Chairman (Honourable Senator N. P. Lambert), called the meeting to order and announced that as a result of the decision taken at last meeting to further screen the seventy-six flags then remaining as selections before the committee, this number had now been reduced to twelve by the vote of the members of the committee.

Mr. Beaudoin moved,—

1. That the twelve remaining flags before the committee be handed over to experts for analysis and report.
2. That some authorities be called as witnesses in order to answer questions which members of the committee on their behalf or on behalf of the public may want to clarify.
3. That instructions be given the Clerk of the Committee to make arrangements to have the twelve remaining flags made standard size and flown at the flagstaffs.

In amendment thereto, Senator Howden moved,—

That the number of flags at present before this committee be reduced by popular ballot from twelve to five and that uniform opinion be sought as to which, if any, of these flags are not suitable as a national emblem, and which is most suitable.

Mr. Gingues moved, in amendment to the amendment,—

That every member select one flag out of the twelve.

The question being put on the proposed amendment to the proposed amendment, it was resolved in the affirmative, Yeas 17, Nays 12.

The Chairman suggested that members of the Committee make their flag selections and deposit their ballots with the Clerk of the Committee on or before noon on May 15, 1946.

The Committee adjourned at 5.45 p.m. to meet again at the call of the Chair.

HOUSE OF COMMONS, Room 277,

WEDNESDAY, May 15, 1946.

The Joint Committee of the Senate and the House of Commons appointed to consider and report upon a suitable design for a distinctive national flag for Canada, met this day at 4 p.m. Mr. W. E. Harris, Chairman of the House of Commons section, presided.

*Present:*

*The Senate:* Honourable Senators Aseltine, Davies, Gershaw, Gouin, Howden, Johnston, Lambert, Quinn, Robinson and White.

*The House of Commons:* Messrs. Beaudoin, Blanchette, Castleden, Emmerson, Gingues, Gladstone, Hansell, Harris (*Grey-Bruce*), LaCroix, Lafontaine, MacNicol, Matthews (*Brandon*), Melvor, Reid, Smith (*Calgary-West*), Stanfield, Stirling, Thatcher, Warren and Zaplitny.

The Chairman (Mr. Harris) placed on the record a resolution received by the Clerk of the House of Commons from the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Quebec.

The Chairman announced the result of the voting on the twelve designs before the committee stating that three had been eliminated and that three of the nine remaining had only one supporter each.

On motion of Senator Howden.—

*Resolved*,—That the three flag designs that had only one supporter be eliminated.

On motion of Mr. Beaudoin.—

*Resolved*,—That flag design No. 3, which had only two supporters, be eliminated.

Mr. Zaplitny moved:—

1. That the five designs now on the panel be constructed in correct size, proportion and shades of color and displayed both inside and outside this building.

2. That steps be taken by this committee to give wide publicity to these designs through such channels as the press, radio and the screen.

In amendment thereto, Senator Howden moved.—

That the five flags now on the board be submitted to expert opinion with a request that compromises be submitted to this committee for their consideration.

In amendment to the proposed amendment, Mr. Reid moved.—

That a sub-committee consisting of five members of the House of Commons and two from the Senate and the two Chairmen be appointed for the purpose of bringing in a report to this committee as to the procedure to be adopted from now on.

By leave, Mr. Zaplitny and Senator Howden withdrew their respective motions.

The question being put on the motion of Mr. Reid, it was resolved in the affirmative.

On motion of Mr. Beaudoin, the Committee adjourned at 5.15 p.m., to meet again at the Call of the Chair.

ANTOINE CHASSE,  
*Clerk of the Joint Committee.*



## MINUTES OF EVIDENCE

May 14, 1946.

The Joint Special Committee of the Senate and the House of Commons appointed to consider and report upon a suitable design for a distinctive national flag for Canada, met this day at 4.00 o'clock p.m. Hon. Mr. N. P. Lambert (Chairman of the Senate section), presided.

The CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, I do not want the members of this committee to get the impression that I have elected myself to be continuing chairman of this committee, but my friend, Mr. Harris, the joint chairman, who was unable to be present at the last meeting when he ordinarily would have presided, introduced a rather illogical argument this morning which was that ordinarily I would have presided at this meeting, and he thought I should carry on in view of the discussion which took place at our last meeting; and I agreed to do so.

To bring ourselves up to date on the present situation, there have been thirty-six votes cast, one selection for each vote on the seventy-six flags that were screened at our last meeting and which are here arrayed to-day. As the result of that vote there are now twelve flags remaining; and it was suggested, I think recommended, in the motion that all other flags should be discarded from the screen: so that now the committee is faced with the problem of disposing of these final twelve flags. We are open now for any suggestion as to the future procedure that should be taken with respect to these.

Mr. BEAUDOIN: I think we are closing in on our objective; it is suggested that we vote down one by one against the main motion the remaining twelve flags.

Hon. Mr. HOWDEN: Not necessarily.

Mr. BEAUDOIN: At any rate the procedure which was suggested at the last meeting was that balloting take place in order to further eliminate different flags which might be ready for elimination now in the opinion of this committee. It might be that after we have eliminated more flags that to-night, before 6 o'clock, we might be ready to recommend what in the opinion of the majority of the members of this committee might be a distinctive Canadian flag.

Our real duty, I think, is to give to the country an acceptable flag, acceptable to the majority and, as much as possible, to the minorities as well. We must report to the House on a suitable design for such a flag. There is a great proportion of our population who do not agree on certain features which appear on the design introduced by the main motion.

Senator Howden at our last meeting put his finger on the real problem which confronts the members of this committee when he said, and I quote from the minutes of evidence of this committee held on May 9, 1946:—

I am afraid that we are largely evading or refusing to recognize facts. There are apparently two great bodies of opinion in this committee as to what the flag should be or should not be. The point on which we are divided is, shall our flag have or shall it not have a union jack on it. Now then if there is a vast body of opinion in Canada that does not want a union jack, it seems to me to be the apparent duty of this committee to try to unite these two bodies of opinion on something on which they can agree. Now, as a matter of fact, that is just where we are at. We might as well acknowledge it. There is no question about it in the world. We do not care a continental damn about all these flags. The sole point there is, shall we or shall we not have a union jack. Until we can decide our differences on that matter we are not going to get

anywhere. For that reason the sooner we eliminate the vast majority of these flag designs the better.

It has been recalled that the Quebec legislature passed a resolution suggesting that the union jack or the fleur-de-lis be not included in our flag. It has been said also that many letters and resolutions from associations in Quebec or outside had been received in which the same suggestion is made. In my opinion, the people who have made that suggestion did not do so because they are against the union jack as such, but because they feel that it belongs to the United Kingdom and that a flag containing it could not be a distinctive Canadian flag.

I admire the spirit of tolerance and understanding, the breadth of vision displayed by the members of this committee. I know that they will consider this matter of a flag very seriously.

When it is asked that no fleur-de-lis be included in our flag, the request is based on the same arguments as for the exclusion of the union jack; because should it contain the fleur-de-lis or the union jack our flag would not be a distinctive Canadian flag. I would ask the members to remember the discussion which took place in the House on article 26 of the Citizenship bill. If we were to accept the contentions of Mr. Coldwell and of others, for instance, that a Canadian citizen is a subject of His Majesty the King of Canada—which is true—the way to indicate that situation on our flag would be, in my opinion, to include the royal standard. At page 29 of the *Manual of Flags*, by W. J. Gordon, it says: "The royal standard is the symbol of the personal tie that unites the British power throughout the world under one King."

I was glad to hear Mr. MacNicol and other members declare the other day that they would have agreed to the inclusion of the fleur-de-lis. Some members have even been reproachful of the fact that French-speaking Canadians did not want the fleur-de-lis on the flag. The situation now is that French-speaking Canadians do not want the fleur-de-lis to which English-speaking Canadians would have agreed, and English-speaking Canadians insist on the union jack to which French-speaking Canadians do not agree. But I repeat, the opposition is not so much to the union jack itself but because if it were included our flag would not be, in their opinion, distinctively Canadian.

I would like to remind you, gentlemen, that in 1925 the largest French newspaper in America instituted a national flag contest.

The *La Presse* design introduced to this committee not by *La Presse* but by Mr. Savage of Duncan, B.C., is on that board and bears number 716. It is the one in the third row, with the union jack in the upper corner and with a green maple leaf on it. I quote Mr. Savage:—

In 1925, *La Presse*, Montreal, instituted a "National Flag Contest". There were 1,700 entries. The distinguished judges were: Mr. Arthur G. Doughty, Archivist of Canada; Mr. Pierre Georges Roy, Chief Archivist of the Province of Quebec; Mr. Edouard Z. Massicotte, President, Canadian Folklore Society; Mr. Samuel M. Baylis, Archeological and Numismatic Society, Montreal; and Mr. Victor Morin, President, Historical Society of Montreal.

They chose a design submitted by four competitors. (I have never known their names.) It was thus described: "White field, with Union Jack in first quarter, and a green maple leaf in the heart of the second part" (fly). *La Presse*, May 29, 1926, said:

The white background of the flag symbolizes the history of the first period of Canada, the heroic period, wherein citizens of French origin played such a grand role. It recalls, also, all that we owe to Great Britain and, by the Maple Leaf, it expresses the hopes and aspirations of contemporary Canada.



Behold, the formula is complete! The new flag is meant for Canadians without distinction; also, have we reason to believe it will find favour with all Canadians.

In a requested article, April 26, 1930, I said in *La Presse*: The winning design is the best and most appropriate which has so far come under my notice." I still hold that opinion.

The point that I want to advance is that the people of Quebec are not against the union jack, as such, but they want, like we all do, a distinctive Canadian flag in conformity with the actual autonomous position of Canada.

Ever since the beginning of its sittings this committee has done nothing else but eliminate. Now we have before us twelve flags. It has always been understood that members of this committee could suggest their own design and could also rely on the help of experts to give the finishing touch to their own ideas and also to analyse certain designs which we have now before us and which have been sent by the public. I do not believe it would help our task or that we would be serving our purpose if we were to take votes now in order to eliminate some of the twelve flags which are now before us. In view of the situation which exists in certain parts of the country we should remember what many members serving on this committee have already said at previous sittings that there is no rush in this matter after all. The flag that we select will be used for a long time and to put it in the words of Mr. Hansell: "The flag is going to be used from now until eternity."

At our meeting held on March 29, 1946, several members of the committee held the opinion that we should go into this matter very carefully. They advocated that we hear witnesses. It was, I think, Mr. McCulloch (Pictou) who, seconded by Mr. McIvor, moved that witnesses be heard before the committee. Mr. Matthews endorsed that proposition. Several written submissions had been received and it was agreed that members could consult the various briefs; therefore no witnesses have been called so far. I do not think that members have had enough time to examine the written submissions as they should have been, nor the resolutions and letters which have been sent in by associations and people from all over the country. At any rate what is very important is to remind ourselves that our job calls for expert advice. I quote Mr. Hugh Savage, page 3 of his brief: "If Canada were building a bridge, would a parliamentary committee examine the details and determine the job without the advice and assistance of expert engineers?"

This was the opinion of Mr. Hansell, I quote page 11, Minutes of Proceedings and Evidence No. 1:—

I think the choice of a flag is extremely important, and it carries with it the responsibility of choosing something more than a design that may look nice. There is something in heraldry and symbolism. I do not know if there are any people in Canada who are experts on the subject, but it could be very easy for us to adopt some flag, not hearing any representations pro or con on it, only to find out a few years afterwards that we had chosen a symbol which has some sinister historical background to it. We might be sorry for it. I do not know if I make myself clear. I do not know how many of you have looked into the matter of symbolism.

Mr. Hansell then took the example of the swastika and showed how the Germans adopted the bad luck sign. And Mr. Hansell added:—

We do not want to wake up in a few years' time to find that we have got some symbol that represents something sinister or has some sinister background to it. All I am saying is this, that I do not want to entertain a notion that will rule out the appearance of anybody. Perhaps

that is not the way Mr. Reid's motion reads, but I do not like to rush into the thing. The flag is going to be used from now until eternity. Whatever we decide on, we want to make sure that it is expressive of the right thing. I do not see that there is any rush in this matter.

In the course of that little debate I ventured to ask the following question, I quote from page 12, meeting of the second day:—

Mr. Chairman, would I be right in understanding that after we have gone over these flags, during the period of time we agree upon, and eliminated maybe 1,600 or 1,700 and if there are about 50 left, you might submit those flags to experts?

The CHAIRMAN: That might be our decision.

After the motion for the calling up of witnesses had been dealt with, the Hon. Mr. Stirling asked the chairman where we stood and the chairman replied:—

We stand at the point at which we opened the meeting, I would say. We have had a discussion about the matter. We have voted down a motion, but we have not made a positive decision about anything, and the matter just rests at the present moment; the committee can do anything they like about it, but because we have not any concert on the thing we are not doing anything for the time being. In other words, we do not do anything until we decide otherwise.

I think, Mr. Chairman, that the committee may now be asked to consider whether it could not decide otherwise on the question of calling up witnesses and using expert advice in heraldry. At our last meeting, that is on May 9, the Hon. Mr. Stirling raised the point just before I was going to do so, he said, and I quote from the minutes:—

There is another matter I should like to draw to the attention of the committee. Earlier in our proceedings it was stated that at a certain time we should have the advantage of advice from students of heraldry and people of artistic experience to guide us on the fundamentals of flag choosing. I should like to know at what stage we are going to have the assistance of that advice, because if it is going to be of any assistance to us, it seems to me we should have it before we begin to eliminate anything.

At that time there were about seventy-six designs.

Now, Mr. Chairman, that we have only twelve designs left, I humbly suggest that these twelve flags be referred to experts in heraldry for study and report to this committee. As they have stood so far through three or four eliminations made very carefully by the members of this committee they deserve to be analysed by experts. As soon as the names of these experts are known to us, members may suggest new ideas and ask these experts to fabricate designs corresponding to their ideas. One might say that we have had already expert advice when Colonel Duguid appeared before the committee on November 27, and December 4, 1945. There seems to be too much criticism of Colonel Duguid's evidence in order to be guided by it. For instance Mr. Hugh Savage of Duncan, B.C., who was referred to at a previous meeting by the chairman as a very well known resident of British Columbia and who seems to know something of heraldry, says, and I quote from his brief:—

Heraldry must be hereditary. My late father was known to the *Heralds' College*—as I will call the *College of Arms*—London, as "the unofficial Herald of the Midlands". He was librarian at Shakespeare's birthplace, Stratford-on-Avon, where I was born 62 years ago.



Apparently Mr. Savage is not only a well known resident of British Columbia, but he is also a reliable person, as I judge by his record and biographical notes. Again I quote from his brief:—

I served in South Africa, 1901-2 and, later, worked my way round the world. I was in Canada 40 years ago and continuously since 1909.

I condense from "Who's Who" (Canada). On Vancouver and New Westminster dailies. Explored Peace River country, 1911. Succeeded the late Lukin Johnston as Editor, *The Cowichan Leader*, Duncan, B.C. President, Vancouver Island Boards of Trade. President, Canadian Weekly Newspapers Association. Delegate to Imperial Press Conferences in Australia and England. Member, Legislative Assembly of B.C., 1933-7. Independent. Anglican, Free Mason, Scoutmaster.

Of Colonel Duguid's evidence he says, and I quote from that voluminous brief:—

Solely on the evidence of the report, I am regretfully driven to conclude:—

1. That Col. Duguid's statement abounds in false premises and inaccuracies. Its multiplicity of misstatements reveals mediocre knowledge of heraldry.

2. That Col. Duguid, speaking to you "as a Canadian citizen" (P.7) presented to you what amounts to a brief designed to influence your selection of the design of the Canadian Army Headquarters flag by Col. Duguid, "officer of the Canadian Army" and "servant of the Canadian Government."

I sincerely regret that I cannot accept his assurance that "I am not going to present any brief for any particular flag." My view, I subsequently find, is supported by the report of J. A. Hume in the *Ottawa Citizen*, December 4, 1945. "Qui s'excuse, s'accuse."

I feel that it is my plain duty, in the national interest, that I should take many days and some of your hours to explain that Colonel Duguid has:—

1. Confounded the colours of mantling and crest wreath ascribed by the Heralds' College to Canada's armorial bearings with "national colours".

2. Taken the maple sprig, a small part of Canada's arms, and, incorrectly but definitely, states that it is the "national emblem of Canada". So doing, he has changed, from green to red, the proper, accepted and heraldically "proper" colour displayed since 1924 and now flying from the Peace Tower by Privy Council order.

3. Has misrepresented facts patent to anyone claiming the slightest knowledge of heraldry. This cannot be explained by the differences as between English and Scottish heraldic practice. Canada's grant of arms is from the English Heralds' College.

4. Has read into and deduced from the Proclamation and has presented as facts, conclusions and statements which definitely are not included in that document.

I am beginning to wonder who is right and who is wrong.

Another reason why experts should be heard is that several questions now in the mind of the public or in the mind of the members of this committee should be answered before we go any further. On page 6 of the Minutes of Proceedings and Evidence No. 1, Mrs. Marjorie T. Smart, National Secretary of the Imperial Order of the Daughters of the Empire, said, and I quote:—

May I at this time ask for some official and authentic information on a matter upon which there is much general confusion. What is the definite status of the flag which for years has been pictured in some school texts and referred to as the Canadian flag? I am speaking of the Canadian Red Ensign. Was it ever authorized as an official flag within the Dominion, and if so, when?

If Canada is to adopt a distinctive flag, in addition to the Union Jack, how is the supplementary flag to be used? If the Canadian Red Ensign already has a measure of official status (and it has been sold as merchandise in our shops under the designation of the "Canadian Flag" for many years), what is to become of it if a flag of another design is officially adopted?

If the doubt and misunderstanding over such points as these could be clarified by the committee, it would give the general public a much clearer understanding of the efforts to choose and officially adopt a distinctive Canadian flag.

And there are many other questions which should be answered. For instance:—

1. Is it the opinion of the committee that it is absolutely necessary to indicate on the flag the affiliation of Canada to the British Commonwealth of Nations?
2. If affiliation to the commonwealth has to be indicated, in how many ways can it be done?
3. Could Canada's flag be a distinctive flag without showing specifically its affiliation to the commonwealth?

In a manual of flags by W. J. Gordon, revised by V. Wheeler-Holohan, one may read in the preface the following words:

Taken as a nation we in the United Kingdom are surprisingly ignorant on the subject of flags. Perhaps it is that we are not demonstrative. Although the Briton is intensely proud of the Union Flag, it does not prevent him from referring to it as the Union Jack, neither does it prevent him on every Empire Day—through sheer ignorance—from hoisting it upside down and thereby mingling a certain amount of distress with his pride. There is, however, some excuse for the average citizen being perplexed over which flag he has the right to fly. From time to time we see letters in the newspapers warning him not to hoist the Union Flag over his house, not to fly the cross of St. George, or not to show the Red Ensign.

This explanation gives us a warning that along with our flag, we might set the rules as to how and where it may be properly flown. The same authority goes on saying, I quote:—

There never has been and never need be any doubt as to what is fitting. As recently as June, 1933, the Home Secretary stated in the House of Commons that "The Union Flag is the national flag, and may properly be flown by any British subject on land."

Now here is the question, does this statement made by the Home Secretary in 1933 still hold true today? Mr. Savage in his brief, page 49, says, "It is the individual right and privilege of every British subject to fly this flag. It is the right and privilege of every dominion to fly it. In proposing the creation of a dominion flag for Canada there is not the slightest suggestion of abolishing the use of the Union Jack." This contention, if correct, raises the following question: after this committee has selected a distinctive Canadian flag, will any Canadian British subject retain the absolute right to fly the complete union jack at any time? If so, the committee might consider, in order to settle the impasse in which it is, the decision taken by South Africa which adopted two official flags. I quote from the statutes of the Union of South Africa, Volume II, 1927-28, page 6:—



The flags of the Union shall be

- (a) The Union Jack to denote the association of the Union with the other members of the group of nations constituting the British Commonwealth of Nations, and
- (b) The national flag of which the design is set out in section 8.

I note that the national flag of South Africa contains the union jack but their decision on the subject was taken in 1927. I wonder if their national flag would have included the union jack if their decision had been taken, for instance, after 1931, that is after the statute of Westminster. As a compromise, it may be proper for this committee to consider the adoption of two official flags; if, whether we have a distinctive flag or not, which contains the union jack or not, any British subject may fly the complete union jack at any time. And if we look over the resolutions which have been sent in to this committee in favour of the union jack, we see that what was favoured was the union jack complete, as shown in the second row, and if the government was to select any flag that it should at least contain the union jack in the upper left-hand corner next to the flagstaff.

I read a resolution here by the Crystal Chapter, No. 4, Ottawa, of the Ladies Orange Benevolent Association, "as being opposed to having any other flag except the union jack for Canada." Then it goes on, "If, on the other hand, the people of this country by a majority vote, wish a Canadian flag, then we would suggest that the union jack should occupy a very prominent part of the design."

There is another resolution by the Protestant Women's Federation of Canada as follows:—

The union jack should have the most prominent place in any new flag designed for the Dominion of Canada.

It goes on like this. I will just give another one. It comes from the Canadian Protestant League and reads:—

We do trust that the committee from both the Commons and Senate will see to it that whatever decision is reached that the time-honoured union jack, which is the symbol of the maintenance of man's dearest rights, will be given the place of honour on design chosen.

Furthermore, Mr. Chairman, the flag conveys a signal, it identifies a country, it indicates property and sovereignty. Experts in heraldry may tell us what position the union jack could have on the flag. It has been suggested that the union jack be placed at the corner of honour next to the flagstaff. Would that convey the signal that the country under such a flag is distinctively Canadian with British ties, or would it rather convey the message that it is British and situated in North America?

We have been told that flags should embody history, be simple, distinctive and discernible at a distance. I think that the committee should invite experts to make a critical analysis of the twelve remaining flags which are now before us. Following this analysis it might be possible to eliminate a few more of these twelve flags and then it might be proper to give instructions to the clerk of the committee to have the flags flown on flagstaffs so that all members of this committee may have the opportunity of satisfying themselves as to which flag is the most discernible at a distance.

In the evidence given by Colonel Duguid in the first and final report of last year, page 12, we read that:—

A committee of senior officials of the Canadian government was formed to draw up proposals for national insignia; their recommendation was adopted by the government and a formal request was made by

Canada to King George V as King of Canada—for it is the Sovereign himself who personally makes such assignments within all his dominions. The King thereupon issued a Royal Proclamation on November 1, 1921.

Then at page 15 we are told by Colonel Duguid that:—

Issues of the Canada Year Book of recent years also contain information, not only as to the arms of the dominion but in complete detail as to each province. I refer to the Canada Year Book of 1942 opposite page 32 and the issues of 1943-44 opposite page 40 and 41.

Then Colonel Duguid told the committee that Nova Scotia was the only Canadian province that had adopted a flag of its own so far but that all other provinces, if they did not see fit to put up flags until now, had every right to do so. These remarks, I think, raise the following questions:

After Canada has adopted a distinctive Canadian flag, will the province of Nova Scotia retain the right to fly its own provincial flag? Will other provinces have the right to take advantage of the provincial devices which have been granted to them and fabricate their own provincial flags? Should they decide to do so, what procedure would they have to follow? Will they have to apply to the Canadian government which, on receiving such request, could transmit it to His Majesty the King, who, as Colonel Duguid states, "personally makes such assignments within all his dominions"?

Mr. Chairman, I do believe that at this stage we should receive the answers to all these questions. Therefore, since you have asked us what procedure should be followed from now on, I move that the following procedure be now adopted:

1. That the twelve remaining flags before the committee be handed over to experts for analysis and report.

2. That some authorities be called as witnesses in order to answer questions which members of the committee on their own behalf or on behalf of the public, may want to clarify.

3. That instructions be given to the clerk of the committee to make arrangements to have the twelve remaining flags made standard size and flown at the flagstaffs.

The CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, you have heard the motion by Mr. Beaudoin. Might I observe, before reading this motion, as a point to be observed in any discussion that arises, that strictly speaking the subject of the motion, the amendment and the amendment to the amendment which were tabled on resolution at the last meeting—on Mr. Castleden's suggestion, I think—for the time being, are not subject to discussion without moving that they be taken off the table.

Mr. Beaudoin who has just taken his seat proceeded. I think, in the beginning of his remarks to discuss that, and I decided to let him go ahead because he really came to the point of his speech in a motion that something further be done with these flags, which is quite in order. But I do not think it is in order to enter into any pro and con discussion about the resolutions that are on the table, before they are lifted. The resolution which Mr. Beaudoin has moved is, first, that the twelve remaining flags before the committee be handed over to experts for analysis and report; second, that some authorities be called as witnesses in order to answer questioning which members of the committee on their behalf or on behalf of the public may want to clarify; and third, that instructions be given to the clerk of the committee to make arrangements to have the remaining flags made standard size and flown at the flagstaffs. That is the twelve remaining flags, I presume you mean, Mr. Beaudoin.

Mr. BEAUDOIN: Yes, the twelve.



The CHAIRMAN: You have heard the motion. Is there anyone who wishes to say anything about it?

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Chairman, I am going to make a suggestion to the committee, speaking to this motion perhaps by way of an amendment, and it is this. In the first place I am opposed to the long delay which the implementing of this motion would necessarily involve. The thought that has occurred to me is this, and I mention it for this reason, whether I be believed or not: I am anxious to find a flag that will be suitable and permissible perhaps to all of our people. We cannot go back to the people who sent us here and get their views. We have had very many of them by mail. I regret my inability to speak or read the French language, and I have been unable to understand all the letters which I have received. But we can get a little broader view. I am not suggesting that any of us have come here from caucus definitely instructed to do anything; but there is no use fooling ourselves, we know this matter has had discussion in the various places from which we come and we have been given impressions. I have found an examination of the flags and the debates very enlightening, and I assure you that my own view has been much broadened since I had the privilege of attending these meetings. My thought is this. We all caucus to-morrow. I do not know why we should not be given these twelve flags which are over there, or sufficient copies of them, in order that we appear as missionaries among our various parties. I think that all of us, with our ideas broadened in this place, might go back and be of some assistance. An adjournment would be only for two days. This committee could meet again on Thursday. I do not suppose a motion to adjourn for two days could be properly regarded as an amendment to the motion, although it might, if I added to it that copies of these flags be supplied to us in order that we might present them to our people. I do not want anybody to think that I am stalling in this matter. I was quite prepared last day to go ahead and vote on the thing and bring it to a final conclusion, if means could have been found to do so. I now think that would have been wrong. I think we can find a flag over there which would be acceptable at least, if not enthusiastically so, to the very great majority of the people of this country, irrespective of what their national origin may be. I should like to go back to my caucus with my views broadened as they are, and see if I cannot get a little more support than I think I had when I came here, and in that way we might all arrive at a place where we would not need longer delays, and it really might be helpful in the long run.

Mr. HARRIS: Mr. Chairman, I hope the committee will excuse my speaking for a few minutes about this. There are some things that were said by Mr. Beaudoin which I should like to clear up at once, because I think he has inadvertently reflected a little bit on Colonel Duguid in his presentation to us. The committee knows perfectly well that Colonel Duguid is a civil servant and that he came here at my request for the purpose of giving the committee what advice he could. He did not present any of his designs for the purpose of influencing the committee in any way. He presented his designs to illustrate the lecture he had given, and I thought he did it extremely fairly. I do not want it suggested that he came with the purpose of selling any particular flag. As to whether his learning is sufficient for the committee, that is for the committee to decide; but he was a recognized expert in the Department of National Defence. There is one in the navy, and I have no doubt if the committee wishes to hear that man, he can be here in half an hour. But I do feel that Mr. Beaudoin perhaps said things which he did not mean by quoting from Mr. Savage.

Mr. BEAUDOIN: It is not my own personal view.

Mr. HARRIS: Yes, I know. You were quoting from Mr. Savage.

There is another remark Mr. Beaudoin made and it was that the secretary of the I.O.D.E. asked for details about the Canadian red ensigns, what author-

ity it had. That is fully covered in both Colonel Duguid's evidence and the statement made at the opening of that meeting by the minister, the Secretary of State. We have also the question asked as to the answer made in the old country by the Secretary of State as to the British subject flying the union jack. I am quite sure we could get a legal opinion on that. I am not going to essay my own opinion at the moment. I should like to point out, however, that the union jack which is in the twelve displayed, is not the union jack; it has a white border on it and it is therefore not the union jack normally referred to.

He made some reference about the upper left-hand corner being the place of honour. I might point out that Colonel Duguid's evidence was to the contrary. He said that the national symbol in a flag is the place of honour and that whatever you put in is an augmentation and is not given seniority by its location on the flag.

The other question asked was this: can the provinces fly their own flags? I am sure this committee is not going to enter into that; at least, I hope it will not. We are here to choose a distinctive Canadian flag, and what the provinces may do is their own affair after that.

A final remark about the suggestion made by Mr. Smith: I do not think the committee would perhaps be discharging its functions properly if it permitted the suggestion that we should submit these things to our various caucuses. What Mr. Smith may choose to do in the two days' delay that might be granted is his own affair. If he chooses to take it up with caucus or if any other member chooses to do so, I am sure we will benefit by the advice that will be later given, but I would not want the committee to recognize the principle of referring any question to caucuses from this committee.

Mr. SMITH: I agree with that.

Mr. HARRIS: If I might be permitted, I should like to say something about the evidence of experts. It has always been recognized that we might choose to have the evidence of experts, but it has been my impression that we have the final move in the game and that when we got down to approaching our own choice we would then get the advice as to whether we were on the right track or not. I would suggest to the committee that twelve is still too great a number to send to the experts.

Some Hon. MEMBERS: Hear, hear.

Mr. HARRIS: I suggest that once we decide upon the principle involved in these twelve flags, or any two or three of them, it might be soon enough to call in the experts.

Mr. MacNICOL: I merely rise to refer to an impression that seemed to go out from some of the remarks I made at our last sitting. You will recall that I stated that 383 of the flags had the union jack in a prominent place. I did not mean to give the impression that only 383 flags had the union jack thereon. I meant that 383 had the union jack right up in the upper left-hand corner or in a prominent place on the flag, a complete union jack. The secretary tells me that between 51 and 52 per cent of the flags have the union jack or some part of the union jack thereon. I did not count flags like those as having the union jack in a prominent place; I refer to that flag over there (indicating). It has only part of a union jack. I did not mean that in my 383, nor did I count the 27 flags on the screen over there (indicating) or the one behind it, that have only a part of the union jack on them. That is the point I want to make, that of the 2,409 flags, 1,229 on the basis of 51 per cent, had the union jack or some part of the union jack thereon; that 383 had the union jack in a prominent place on the flag. So that, Mr. Chairman, I welcome what has been brought to my attention, that I greatly understated perhaps, in somebody's mind, the part the union jack played on the flag. I again restate, according to my count, that 383



have the union jack in a prominent place on the flag and according to the count of the committee, over 51 per cent of the flags have the union jack or some part of the union jack thereon; that is, the overwhelming majority.

Hon. Mr. HOWDEN: Mr. Chairman, I am very largely in agreement with Mr. Beaudoin's motion, but I think he has got too many flags. This committee does not need to think it can kid itself into avoiding the responsibility of making this choice. We are going to have to do that ourselves. Any reference to outsiders or anything of that kind just means delay and confusion. I may say that I know nothing about heraldry, nothing at all; but my own ordinary common gumption leads me to prefer some flags over others, and we all have that gumption. We all have an idea what flag we desire. I do not want to make an amendment, but I do think Mr. Beaudoin would be well advised if he would restrict the number of twelve flags to, say, five, or three, or almost two; and that this committee, having expressed its majority choice for the flag, would respect that majority choice. I would suggest that this choice and perhaps a second choice and even a third choice might be referred to the experts on the matter who would appear before us and give us some consideration and advice as to what we ordinarily could do and could not do. I do believe we ought to eliminate a lot of those flags, but I do not know how many. I think we should eliminate at least another five, if not seven, of them.

Mr. BEAUDOIN: Mr. Chairman, like Senator Howden, I do not know anything about heraldry. I remember quite well at the beginning of our sittings some members of this committee, at the time that there were 1,600 or 1,700 designs, suggested that we secure the help of experts in heraldry and that we submit the whole 1,700 designs. Members of this committee will well remember the debate that took place at that time, and it was considered so important then that no decision one way or another was taken; it was just postponed until we decided otherwise. The other day when there were 76 designs, Hon. Mr. Stirling said if we were to have any advice, it was the time to have it; and there were 76 designs then. I do not think I have too many flags. I have only one; and I have had one ever since the beginning, and I am still sticking to my one.

Mr. HARRIS: Regardless of the experts?

Mr. BEAUDOIN: But I suggest, before we go any further, that there are many questions in the minds of many members, at least outside of the committee room; because when we meet and discuss the matter privately, it seems to me that there are many questions that remain unanswered in our minds. I feel a little surprised to see that there is so much unanimity in proceeding in a very rushing way, the minute we meet together. There is no doubt that the right thing will come out. And I do not mean to suggest delays which my honourable friend might have been afraid of, something that would postpone the decision by this committee until, for instance, the end of the session or next session. I am not trying to dispose of my responsibility as a member of this committee; not at all. But I just say that we should go into this matter carefully. I do not think that the members who have expressed their opinions before, have changed their minds now; and it will not delay matters very much, providing that we can get these experts, hear them and satisfy ourselves. There is one way of finding out in a very speedy way if I am the only one who feels that way, and that is for the chairman to put the motion to the committee and vote it down. That is all there is to it.

Mr. REID: Mr. Chairman, I agree with the previous speakers, in saying that I know nothing about heraldry. I note that Mr. Beaudoin says that he is sticking to his one flag. I am just wondering what would happen if the experts in heraldry, those who know about the matter, came before this committee with twelve flags. It is difficult to say what they might do; they might eliminate many of the twelve. I maintain that the responsibility of this committee is to do

the choosing. That is one of the reasons I was against this committee turning over to the experts in heraldry, right at the beginning, the choice of a Canadian flag, because the duty of parliament rests with this committee to do the choosing. We have to face up to that responsibility. I think there is a great deal to be said for reducing and eliminating, and coming to some principle of understanding amongst ourselves; then asking the experts if something can be combined, or some flag can come out of the two or three which will meet the views of the committee. But if you bring the experts in heraldry into it now, they might turn around and say that the first flag will conflict with certain flags of other nations; they might say with regard to the second one, that you could not do that, and the same with the third one. The first thing you know, they would be ruling the committee. I am just raising a protest and a warning to the committee that we might run right into this danger if we bring in the experts now to deal with twelve flags. I support Dr. Howden in eliminating some of the flags now before the committee.

Mr. HANSELL: Mr. Chairman, I personally find myself pretty well in agreement with the motion. With all due respect to Senator Howden and Mr. Reid, if we look at these flags we will discover that while there are twelve flags, there is not a great deal of difference in the content of them. You have the union jack; you have the maple leaf; and apart from that there is not much more except the arrangement of the design. I do not agree that there are too many flags there, from which the experts that the motion suggests we call will be able to study and present to us a suitable brief. I would just point out this in respect to the motion. I should like to know who the experts are and what they are expert in.

Mr. MACNICOL: The committee should know that.

Mr. HANSELL: The term expert is a term that has been used in the past few years and has fallen into disrepute. I once heard a definition of an expert, and the definition was that he was a little squirt away from home. You can have experts in heraldry; you can also have experts in colour. You can have an expert artist and you can have an expert in design. *An expert in design is not necessarily, I think, an expert in heraldry.* But I do believe that we should hear those experts, know who they are, know what they are expert in, and then go on from there.

There is another point in respect to the motion. It says that these experts shall study and report. Here is one point where I agree with Mr. Reid. If they are going to report, I am against their reporting in any way which would constitute a recommendation. If they report, then I want them to report their findings in respect to their particular line—whether it is colour, heraldry, design, or whatever it is—and leave it at that, and let us take the responsibility of finally deciding.

While I am on my feet, I wonder if I might mention this. Could any member of the committee enlighten us on what the procedure might be after we have chosen a design? Perhaps this is premature, but nevertheless it is very important. I did gain from somewhere the impression that before a design could be finally adopted by Canada, it would still have to go before the heraldry experts in Great Britain, and then eventually be finally ratified by His Majesty the King. Whether that is true or not, I do not know, but I think it would be wise for us to learn. In that respect, we may have to call someone from the Department of Justice or the Department of External Affairs. With these observations, Mr. Chairman, in respect to experts and their coming back with a report only and not a recommendation, personally I find myself in favour of the motion; and I do not believe there are too many flags there now for us to put into the hands of the experts.

Hon. Mr. STIRLING: Mr. Chairman, my name has been mentioned in connection with experts, so I should like to remind the committee that what I



actually said was that if they were going to follow the suggestion at the commencement of these proceedings, when the advice of experts was referred to, the time very probably had arrived now to receive the advice of those experts. I was not actually advocating that experts should come before us and give us their expert knowledge. It may be that it would be a good thing. But Mr. Hansell has put his finger on the difficulty there when he asks, who are the experts? We know of Colonel Duguid. Colonel Duguid has been connected with the historical section of the Department of National Defence for a good many years, and as such he has had to interest himself a great deal in design. He gave us some extremely interesting advice at the commencement of the proceedings of this committee. I imagine therefore that he would be looked upon as one of the experts. It might be that Lieutenant Commander Beddoe, who has been with us in the past, might be another. What other experts was the chairman, for instance, considering calling before us? The very grave difficulty that we run up against in having expert advice is this, that if there were three experts we might get three quite entirely separate pieces of advice, in which case we would not find ourselves very greatly helped. I would like to repeat my question to the committee: how shall we go to work to get the best use out of different experts? Mr. Hansell has also referred to the fact that in all probability before this is all completed it may have to reach the College of Heralds in Great Britain, not because it is the College of Heralds in Great Britain by any means, but because we have not got a college of heralds in this country; and when the acceptance of His Majesty of a design which shall be chosen by us is sought there is surely no doubt in our minds but that His Majesty will refer the design to the College of Heralds before he expresses his opinion one way or another.

As we have not got a college of heralds in Canada, it seems to me that we should receive information before we commit ourselves to receiving experts here to give us their advice as to what experts we can get.

Mr. MACDONNELL: Mr. Chairman, I speak with some hesitation, I missed some of the earlier meetings and I am not quite as familiar with what has taken place in the earlier stages of the committee as I should be. I am on the whole in favour of Mr. Beaudoin's motion although there are some parts I do not like. I am for it for this reason that I think any other course is going to hurry us into a situation where we are going to have to take a vote, which I believe is going to be very unsatisfactory to a group of people in this country, I do not care which way it goes. Perhaps from cowardice, I am clutching at the hope that if we can possibly have a little more delay some better situation than now arises might eventuate. I realize from what the Senator has said that we cannot by referring this matter to experts get out of our own responsibility in any way. In a sense, what I say is inconsistent, but I am not willing to see my friend Mr. Smith's motion carried, because I understand that we would come back here on Thursday and decide this matter. I am against it. My feeling is that it is unjust and intolerable to have a vote taken which is going, I am sure, to be unsatisfactory to a substantial minority of the people in this country, in the House and in this committee, while there is any hope of finding some way out of it. I have not much hope that the experts will help us, but I would like to cling to it while there is the slightest ray of hope. Although there are some things in Mr. Beaudoin's motion I do not go along with in general I am for it, and I shall vote for it.

Mr. ZAPLITNY: With regard to the experts, I believe that there are three parts in the motion and that two parts are acceptable to all of us: that is, that the flag be constructed in proper proportion and in a proper shade of colour so that we can judge them in their true light. Flags on paper are hard to judge. It is hard to guess how they will look on cloth. Secondly, that the flags be flown.

As to submitting them to the experts for their opinion I believe that Mr. Beaudoin would be willing to drop that part of his motion, and as amended I think the motion will be acceptable to all of us as it is acceptable to me.

MR. MATTHEWS: I must say that I do not wish to put any motion at the present time before this committee. I think that is one point we want to act very carefully on, because if the motion should be interpreted to mean that one is ruled in or another is ruled out, I think we are just a little fast as far as these designs are concerned, and I believe that there should still be a little more elimination. It is very evident that the opinion among members in this House is still divided, and if we can get the choice down a little further—say to about four—and then bring in, as we must in the end, experts to cast their technical eye over these, I think we would be able to arrive at a sane conclusion. For instance, if instead of taking any votes now we proceeded on a different basis—you might call it a vote if you like—take a ballot and eliminate in each ballot the two low ones; then we could take another ballot and eliminate the next low one. Some might say that that would take a lot of time, but it won't take as much time as doing a lot of talking, and I do believe that we would get down to something pretty practical in that way, and something that might in a way be very satisfactory to all concerned. I believe that everybody here wants to see this matter handled in a friendly and a frank way. Nobody has come into this committee room—I need not say so, but I will while I am at it—with a chip on his shoulder. I believe that we are all working together as good Canadians trying to find a solution to a problem, that will have a great bearing on the future of this country. The making of a Canadian flag is an event; and I suggest that so far as saying yes or no to any set motions the further we keep away from that at the present time the better.

MR. BEAUDOIN: Mr. Chairman, it seems that the two last portions of the motion are agreeable to everybody. As to the first portion, what I mean by experts reporting is simply that these twelve flags be given to them for analysis, and it might be that reporting means that they are going to come here and give us the result of their study and analysis. It might be that they will be able to tell us, for instance, that one does not mean anything in heraldry, and there might be two or three or four or more automatically eliminated without our taking a vote on them.

HON. MR. HOWDEN: Is there an amendment before the meeting?

THE CHAIRMAN: There is no amendment.

HON. MR. HOWDEN: I am going to make an amendment if I may, and the amendment will be to this effect, that the number of flags at present before this committee be reduced by popular ballot from twelve to five, and that uniform opinion be sought as to which, if any, of these flags are not suitable as a national emblem, and which is the most suitable.

MR. HERRIDGE: I rise to second the motion. I think that would give us a good working basis, and then we can get the experts at that stage to see if any of these flags or combinations would be suitable.

THE CHAIRMAN: May I suggest that this situation be simplified a little bit by dealing with the first point that Dr. Howden has made in his amendment, and that is that the number of flags be reduced from twelve to five. When that is done we take another ballot or in some other way then proceed with the suggestion of how we are going to go about referring these five flags to the experts. I think we can better deal with them then; but the important thing in connection with Mr. Beaudoin's motion and Dr. Howden's amendment is that you decide whether or not you want to take another ballot on those flags there to have them reduced to a smaller number. I do not see how you can arbitrarily set out to reduce them to five if you have another ballot.



Hon. Mr. HOWDEN: If we all vote five flags, those five flags that receive the greatest number of votes will be the choice.

Mr. LACROIX: No.

Mr. REID: May I ask you to look at the second row? Leaving out the centre flag the principle there is the same, and it is the same in the bottom row and in the third row; the only difference is the colour. But the principle is exactly the same in those five flags; there is no difference in principle. The union jack is in one corner; there may be a green maple leaf or red maple leaf or red background or white background or a blue background. There are not even three principles embodied in the twelve flags. Therefore, I see no reason why we cannot eliminate, because after all we are getting down to the principle of what the emblem shall be.

Mr. McIVOR: Mr. Chairman, my imagination may not be as keen as Mr. Hansell's, but I do not see very much similarity between that flag on the right north and the bottom one on the right south, but perhaps he can see a similarity. Now, I have my mind pretty well made up, and I do not think the experts are going to change my opinion very much. I believe that Dr. Howden's motion will eliminate at least seven, and that is getting a little nearer home. I believe that there is a good deal of practical common sense in the motion.

Hon. Mr. DAVIES: Mr. Chairman, I was going to say that I do not see very much sense at this time in bringing in experts. I think, as has been said by several speakers, that it is the job of this committee to choose a flag. The experts will tell us after we have chosen the flag whether for some reason or other we cannot fly it in Canada. Now, Mr. Beaudoin said he had one flag in mind and Mr. McIvor said he had chosen his flag; what is the use of bringing experts to change these men; they will not change them at all. I was going to suggest that we cast twelve votes and that the six lowest be eliminated. It is practically the same as Dr. Howden's motion, and I support the motion.

Mr. LACROIX: I am against that motion and I will tell you why. Are we going to consider—

The CHAIRMAN: Against the motion or the amendment?

Mr. LACROIX: I mean the amendment. Are we going to consider that as a vote? That is to say that if the majority pronounce themselves in favour of the elimination of all the flags that would or would not include the union jack that would be a vote.

The CHAIRMAN: There would not be a final vote.

Mr. LACROIX: Suppose the majority of the committee decide that the five that would be left will include the union jack and eliminate all the others. I might as well propose my motion of the other day which you ruled out of order, Mr. Chairman, and decide the principle right away.

The CHAIRMAN: I think that what is really before the committee now is the amendment of Senator Howden to the effect that these flags be reduced to five in number. I do not want to cut off discussion but if I ask for a decision of the meeting it will be first of all those who are in favour of the amendment and secondly those who are in favour of the motion.

Mr. CASTLEDEN: Mr. Chairman, speaking to the amendment, I would like to point out that it is in line with what I said the other day, that we have a series of eliminations. There were seventy-six flags the other day and as the result of our first elimination we got down to twelve. There are twelve flags and thirty-seven members of the committee, and I suggest that we take another ballot, one flag for each member, and any flag that does not receive four votes should be dropped. I do not know whether we will bring it down to four, five or seven.

Mr. LACROIX: That is much better; some method such as that will get us down very close to our objective.

Hon. Mr. HOWDEN: Do it on the same basis as they work out proportional representation. Could we not vote for five flags, and those five flags that get the largest number of votes are chosen? We will do it by one vote.

Mr. MACNICOL: You cannot do it by proportional representation.

Mr. LACROIX: I quite agree. I will propose an amendment to the amendment that if a flag is selected by four members of the committee that flag should be considered again.

Mr. HANSELL: Before the motion is put may I say that if it passes I will not have an opportunity of saying why I have chosen a certain flag, and if the vote is taken I run the risk of my choice being eliminated. Therefore, I would like the opportunity of saying why I chose a certain flag in our last vote of elimination. I think we should all have that opportunity. I chose a certain flag because I wanted it, and if we take our vote now you may not know why I wanted it. I may give you some ideas and I may not. Now, Mr. Chairman, I do not know that I take any particular objection to any of the flags, but I am one of those who believe that the flag should include the union jack. The one I chose—

Mr. GLADSTONE: Mr. Chairman, on a question of procedure, is it understood that each one of us will be permitted to express his preference if he so desires?

The CHAIRMAN: Mr. Hansell, I do not think you were here when the motion was put through tabling the three resolutions.

Mr. HANSELL: Yes, I was here.

The CHAIRMAN: I think they are still on the table, and I do not believe you are quite in order to discuss—

Mr. HANSELL: I am not discussing this.

The CHAIRMAN: The substance of them is the same thing.

Mr. HANSELL: I am simply saying that it is somewhat the same thing as having eliminated the candidate one is voting for. I am only saying what candidate you should vote for, and I am extolling the particular virtues—in this case, a flag.

The CHAIRMAN: The sense of limitation which seems to strike the committee, when we get so far in our procedure, I would point out, can be easily overcome by simply returning to the original idea of eliminating the amendment to the amendment, and then eliminating the amendment and get down to the final motion. In that way you can cover a better range of flags. But you wanted to have another opportunity to select from the seventy-six. Well, you have had the opportunity and we have twelve flags now. I think it would be interesting to see if another ballot might not reduce them closer to the figure which was represented when that motion was put tabling the motion and the amendment and the amendment to the amendment. Now, I just say these things as a matter of clarifying the situation. At this particular moment there are two motions. I do not think the last motion was really an amendment to the amendment; it did not really cover anything that was said in the previous motion.

Mr. LACROIX: No. The point is this: I do not want any selection which will be carried on to be considered as a vote. Suppose, for instance, that the majority of the members of the committee through their selection should eliminate all the flags that are within the union jack, then we will not be able to consider flags which do not contain the union jack. To cover that point I might as well present my motion of the other day if it is in order.



The CHAIRMAN: I would not present that. No, we cannot accept a negative motion.

Mr. LACROIX: It is a subamendment I am proposing. If any four members of the committee should choose a flag it will be submitted for the consideration of this committee.

The CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, there is an amendment to the amendment which suggests that any flag having the support of four members be submitted to this committee again along with the results of the vote.

Mr. LACROIX: Yes.

Mr. GLADSTONE: I think Senator Howden and Mr. LaCroix might get together; they seem to be very close together.

The CHAIRMAN: I would like to bring the thing to a head. I do not wish to hasten your vote, but I shall have to put the amendment to the amendment first, and it is that if four members vote for one flag—

Mr. BLANCHETTE: Mr. Chairman, may I say that if we vote I must say right off that I will be voting against the subamendment. I think if we put this subamendment to a vote there might be quite a lot of bad feeling which would result from that vote, there is no way of getting away from that fact. I do not believe that Dr. Howden intended it that way, but there is a possibility that by voting on that subamendment we eliminate practically all the flags on that board except those having the British union jack, and I feel that we would be doing ourselves involuntarily and inadvertently an injustice in taking a vote upon this subamendment now.

Mr. HANSELL: I would ask for a little enlightenment on the motion. As I understand it Senator Howden's motion is that we vote on five flags. I do not agree with Mr. LaCroix. What you have is thirty-seven people voting for five flags which makes 185 flags, and you are bound to have them all left on the board.

The CHAIRMAN: Not necessarily.

Mr. HANSELL: I think you are.

Hon. Mr. HOWDEN: I refer to the five flags getting a majority vote.

Mr. HANSELL: I am talking of Mr. LaCroix's amendment; he wants any flag that gets four votes left on the board, and they are all bound to get four votes. If Senator Howden's motion was that we vote for one flag, then I would agree with Mr. LaCroix. My point is this: Senator Howden's motion was that each member vote for five flags. There are thirty-seven members of the committee and that constitutes 185 votes on these flags and you are bound to have them all left on there. Now, if Senator Howden's motion was for a vote for one flag then it would reduce the number of votes and then your motion would have some value to it. Mr. LaCroix's motion has not much value if you vote for five flags.

Mr. BEAUDOIN: Mr. Chairman, I understand that there is a steering committee, or there should be one, so why do we not nominate a steering committee if we have not got one and have it establish a procedure, and at our next meeting we will proceed according to that procedure which will be offered to us by the steering committee. That committee would have the benefit of our suggestions today.

Mr. REID: One of the reasons why I am against the proposal just made by Mr. Beaudoin is this: no steering committee can lay down a rule for this committee; it can only bring in a recommendation.

The CHAIRMAN: There is no steering committee. We had some discussion on that matter at our first meeting and I think Mr. LaCroix was one of the most strenuous objectors to such a committee and we assured him that there would

not be one. Now, I am going to make another attempt to get these motions and amendments cleaned up.

Mr. GINGUES: Mr. Chairman, when we started in this committee we had 2,400 flags. If I remember well we proceeded to the selection of five flags each and we reduced the number to seventy-six flags. Last week we decided to select a flag each and the number has come down to twelve. Why do not we proceed the same way and have every member here select a flag out of the twelve? I am sure that in that way we will get down to five or six flags and there will not be any unfairness to anyone, and I am convinced that we will get down to five or six flags and thus simplify the matter.

Mr. LACROIX: That is all right. I withdraw my amendment.

The CHAIRMAN: Mr. LaCroix has withdrawn his amendment to the amendment. Dr. Howden, that leaves the situation with your amendment.

Hon. Mr. HOWDEN: I shall be glad to adopt any means of getting five flags. If voting for one flag would be more expeditious, I shall do that.

Mr. HARRIS: If we all vote for one flag, how are we going to choose a flag?

Hon. Mr. HOWDEN: That is what I felt. I felt that if we all voted for one flag we would do exactly what we did the last time and we would have the same flags. Now, do we take the five flags out of the twelve—the five flags that got the majority vote will be the five flags accepted by the committee for the time being.

Mr. GINGUES: That is not what I mean. I want the committee to proceed the same way as it proceeded before. The thirty-seven members can choose a flag. There will not be twelve left.

Mr. ZAPLITNY: I believe I understand what the gentleman is trying to do, and I believe we want to do the same thing. I believe that if we take four votes, each time dropping the least number of votes, we will be left with five flags, and that is what we want.

Mr. LACROIX: Why not face the facts as suggested the other day by Senator Howden? I still move my motion. As an amendment, if it is accepted by the chair, it will be very surprising. Maybe I am right this time.

The CHAIRMAN: What are you making now?

Mr. LACROIX: I have the honour to move that no design be considered for a recommendation by this committee as a suitable design for a distinctive Canadian flag which shall include therein the union jack or the fleur de lis.

The CHAIRMAN: Well, I have no alternative but to rule that out of order, because we are talking about something else at the moment.

Mr. LACROIX: I think it is in order.

The CHAIRMAN: No, it is not.

Mr. LACROIX: Why not?

The CHAIRMAN: We are talking about procedure now, as to how you are going to vote on these flags; and you are talking about design. I am going to ask the committee if they will vote on Dr. Howden's amendment, that a vote be taken by every member in this committee for five flags. All those in favour?

Mr. GINGUES: I will make my suggestion as a sub-amendment to the amendment. It is that every member select one flag out of the twelve.

The CHAIRMAN: Are you in favour of the amendment to the amendment?

Hon. Mr. HOWDEN: Yes. I will be glad to reconcile my amendment to his sub-amendment.

Mr. SMITH: I wonder if we could get a compromise on the matter. My thought is that there are between five and six flags there in the group with the union jack. If we vote, and one member has only one vote for one flag,



we might find that all of the six with the union jack might go out of the window. That is a possibility that could very easily happen and which perhaps the majority would not care to have happen. My compromise is this. We are a committee of 37. There are twelve flags. Twelve threes are 36. Let us try out a three division, and I think we will all be satisfied. I cannot move it, because you have no room for me, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN: Well, will Dr. Howden state what he wishes on the matter?

Mr. LACROIX: He has dropped his motion in favour of Mr. Gingues.

Hon. Mr. HOWDEN: The idea of voting for five flags is apparently not acceptable to a great many members of the committee. The last speaker but one suggested that we vote for one flag and eliminate down until we have five flags left. That suits me absolutely.

Mr. LACROIX: That is all right.

Hon. Mr. HOWDEN: That suits me absolutely.

Mr. CASTLEDEN: The procedure is not yet clear. May I point out this to you, Mr. Chairman, with all deference. We have not yet arrived at a basis upon which we will eliminate the flags. As a committee, we have not yet arrived at and agreed upon a basis upon which we will eliminate the flags after we have taken the vote, one vote for every flag. We are bound to have one vote for every flag. So I would suggest you have to put on a limitation and say that, after everybody having voted for one flag, any flag there that does not receive three votes be eliminated.

Mr. HARRIS: Mr. Chairman, I have been utterly unable to understand the method that most people have in their minds, but I see the position to be this. We want to eliminate some of the twelve, but we have in our own minds a particular flag, and we are afraid that it will not obtain the required number to stay in the running on this particular round. Do I state fairly the general opinion of the committee?

Some Hon. MEMBERS: Yes.

Mr. HARRIS: Then if we take the vote of 37 members on one flag, I presume that Dr. Howden means that we will eliminate that flag which receives the least votes. It may only receive one vote or it may receive five or six, but at any rate it is the least of all those obtaining votes. Is that what you have in mind?

Hon. Mr. HOWDEN: That would be the sure way. It would take time, but it would be the sure way.

Mr. HARRIS: Then if we go on with that, we have got to come down to five flags.

Hon. Mr. HOWDEN: Exactly.

Mr. HARRIS: That is the basis of your present suggestion?

Hon. Mr. HOWDEN: That is what I had in mind in the first place.

Mr. HARRIS: Then we will take six weeks if we meet once a week, or three weeks if we meet twice a week, and I would hope that the committee would not take that long a time.

Hon. Mr. HOWDEN: Before you go any further, may I say that, for that very reason, I think we should condense that all into one vote, by giving our five first choices; and when they were counted we would have the five flags that got the majority vote in this committee. I do not know whether I am right or wrong, but I think I am right. Other people think I am wrong.

Mr. HARRIS: If I understood the meaning of it, that was the original amendment of Dr. Howden.

Hon. Mr. HOWDEN: Yes.

Mr. HARRIS: But ever since that time the discussion has centred around the possibility that my particular flag might not get five votes. So let us com-

promise, if you will, on the five. Let us make it five, or three, but let us proceed on Dr. Howden's amendment and pick a number, five or otherwise. Let us have everybody vote on that number, and let it go at that.

Mr. LACROIX: Mr. Chairman, you have already before you the sub-amendment by Mr. Gingues.

The CHAIRMAN: I was just about to put it, but Dr. Howden agreed to make his amendment the same, so now we are back to where we started from.

Hon. Mr. HOWDEN: Mr. Chairman, the gentleman beside you there has pointed out, I think, what I have been trying to get through the heads of the committee, that we can do it all on a single vote.

The CHAIRMAN: Well, I think you have got it through now.

Hon. Mr. HOWDEN: That was my original motion.

The CHAIRMAN: All right. There is an amendment to the amendment.

Mr. GINGUES: I want to explain it a little further.

The CHAIRMAN: Will you state what your amendment to the amendment is?

Mr. GINGUES: My amendment is that every member select one flag out of the twelve. I put that amendment for one reason. I have not only one flag in mind; I have more than one flag in mind, but I can see that there is a feeling amongst the members of the committee here that we try to come at the thing by way of compromise. Suppose the flag that I like, as a compromise at the last minute, disappears in that vote. Then it is gone, and we will not be able to discuss it. That is why I think it would be fair to give a chance to every member to select one flag out of the twelve, and I am sure it would cut it down to five or six.

Mr. HARRIS: Well, I am quite unable to follow the reasoning. May I ask this? When we have had the vote on one flag, what is the next move? What are you going to do then?

Mr. LACROIX: We will stick to that.

Mr. HARRIS: I want to know.

Mr. REID: That is what is troubling members of the committee, the process of elimination which is to take place.

Mr. HARRIS: That is what I am asking.

Mr. GINGUES: If there were five flags left, we could proceed with the motion and the amendment to the motion, and carry on with the five or six flags that are left.

Mr. HARRIS: I do not understand you at all, Mr. Gingues. Perhaps I am a little dense. We take one vote for every member. Suppose we carry out your suggestion, for the sake of argument, and we have all twelve flags left in. One may have twenty votes and another one have ten and so on. What do we eliminate, or do we eliminate anything?

Mr. GINGUES: Yes. We proceed in the same way we have proceeded since the start of the proceedings. We choose a flag. There are only twelve there that are left. There cannot be any more than twelve, suppose they all stay. Then we proceed with the motion and the amendments and eliminate them one by one.

Mr. HARRIS: Oh, I understand now.

Hon. Mr. ROBINSON: Mr. Chairman—

The CHAIRMAN: Are you speaking to the amendment to the motion?

Hon. Mr. ROBINSON: Yes, I am speaking to the amendment to the motion.

The CHAIRMAN: All right.

Hon. Mr. ROBINSON: And on the principle of procedure, I should like to get the matter cleared up. I am not favourable to taking a vote until we have the thing cleared up. I have heard so many people expressing themselves, I am



not too sure what the amendment to the amendment is. I would favour that a vote be taken that each member of the committee signify one flag, and that any flag that did not receive three votes should be eliminated.

Mr. HARRIS: That is not the point of the sub-amendment.

Hon. Mr. ROBINSON: That will eliminate quite a number. We could then adjourn until to-morrow. I think we are getting a little bit dizzy.

The CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, if I may, I would ask you now to vote on Mr. Gingues' amendment to the amendment, which is that each member of the committee be asked, to make one selection from those twelve flags. Will all those in favour of that please signify?

(Amendment to amendment agreed to.)

The CHAIRMAN: I declare the amendment to the amendment carried by a vote of 17 votes to 12.

Mr. CASTLEDEN: Will you explain what the procedure is with regard to the elimination?

Mr. HARRIS: There is not any.

Mr. CASTLEDEN: Only if there is a flag there that does not get a vote, it will not stay in.

Mr. HARRIS: That is right.

The CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, just before you go—

Hon. Mr. HOWDEN: This is out of order. The original idea was to eliminate flags. Do you mean to say the committee has now decided not to eliminate any flags?

The CHAIRMAN: Just think about it and you will see there is going to be elimination. The whole thing has been explained here, I think, until everybody is pretty nearly dizzy. The next question is, when do you want to make this vote, and what deadline do you wish to set?

Mr. MACNICOL: We could make one vote right now.

The CHAIRMAN: Would to-morrow noon be satisfactory?

Some Hon. MEMBERS: Yes.

Mr. REID: I was going to suggest that those twelve flags be numbered for simplification from 1 to 12, so that every member will vote by number on that board. I would suggest that the flags be numbered on the board from 1 to 12, so that every member could choose a number.

Some Hon. MEMBER: Carried.

The CHAIRMAN: The secretary will see that those flags are numbered. You will vote by number and place your name on the ballot, and have it given to the secretary by to-morrow noon.

Mr. MACNICOL: I move that we take one vote now.

Mr. LACROIX: Are you going to adjourn until to-morrow?

The CHAIRMAN: Does anybody move the adjournment of the committee?

Mr. BEAUDOIN: I move adjournment.

The CHAIRMAN: Then we will adjourn to the call of the chair.

The committee adjourned at 5.45 p.m. to meet again at the call of the chair.





## MINUTES OF EVIDENCE

HOUSE OF COMMONS,

May 15, 1946.

The Joint Special Committee of the Senate and the House of Commons appointed to consider and report upon a suitable design for a distinctive national flag for Canada met this day at 4.00 o'clock p.m. Mr. W. E. Harris (Chairman of the Commons section), presided.

The CHAIRMAN: I have a letter from the clerk of the House of Commons enclosing a resolution which should be on the record. It is from the Legislative Assembly of the province of Quebec. This is an excerpt of the Votes and Proceedings of the first sitting of the Legislative Assembly held on February 27, 1946. It reads:—

Mr. Chaloult moved: that,

Whereas on November 24, 1945, the House of Commons adopted a resolution appointing a parliamentary committee "for the purpose of considering and reporting upon an appropriate design" for a Canadian flag;

This House request the federal parliamentary committee to choose a really Canadian flag, that is to say a flag that excludes any sign of subjection, of colonialism, and which all Canadians, regardless of their origin, may display with pride.

That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the president and all the members of the committee.

The motion was adopted.

It is certified to be a true copy by Antoine Lemieux, clerk of the Legislative Assembly of the province of Quebec. There is also a copy in French.

Gentlemen, the result of the ballot you took over the last 24 hours is before you. We now have 9 flags to consider. I might point out that 3 of the 9 flags have only one supporter. I should like to know what your pleasure is in regard to the disposal of those flags, in view of the discussion we had yesterday.

Hon. Mr. HOWDEN: I move that they be dropped.

Mr. CASTLEDEN: I second the motion.

Mr. HANSELL: If I may speak to the motion, Mr. Chairman, I still claim that a person should have the right to suggest to this committee why he has chosen a certain flag. I fancy the motion may perhaps rule my flag out, but I might be able to convince some that it should remain there. I recognize, Mr. Chairman, what the chairman of yesterday's meeting said, that this could be discussed when we came to the motion that was laid on the table. But if these flags are ruled out, you know they just do not have a ghost of a chance of being included in there afterwards. They could be, but they do not have a ghost of a chance.

Hon. Mr. HOWDEN: They do not have a ghost of a chance anyway.

Mr. HANSELL: That may be. That may depend upon my persuasive powers. I might say to Senator Howden that he may still be right, that mine does not have a ghost of a chance.

The CHAIRMAN: Is there any further discussion?

Mr. GINGUES: Which flags are you dealing with, Mr. Chairman?

The CHAIRMAN: Flags Nos. 1, 6 and 12.

Hon. Mr. DAVIES: No. 12 is gone.

Hon. Mr. GOUIN: No. 9.

The CHAIRMAN: No. 1, No. 6, and No. 9, I should have said. The clerk will indicate to you which ones they are.

(The clerk pointed out the flags mentioned.)

Hon. Mr. HOWDEN: I still persist in my motion, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN: Are you ready for the motion?

Some Hon. MEMBERS: Question.

The CHAIRMAN: All in favour?

Mr. ZAPLITNY: With your permission, Mr. Chairman, I was just going to support the views of Mr. Hansell. It so happened that the one I might choose is ruled out although that is not the only reason I am speaking. But I believe now that we have got it down to 9 flags, which is not a large number considering that we had over 2,400 at one time, it is now a group of flags which could be given publicity and could be displayed in proper proportion and size and shade of colour, and shown to the public without any difficulty. I do not see any reason to rush this and drop these flags which might, in the case of some flags that are turned down, receive a great many choices in the future. I would ask the members to reconsider their opinions on that.

The CHAIRMAN: All in favour of the motion please signify.

(Motion agreed to.)

The CHAIRMAN: I declare the motion carried.

Hon. Mr. LAMBERT: I would ask the clerk to take those flags down.

Hon. Mr. DAVIES: I wonder why that screen could not be put there in front so that we could all see the flags, without having to constantly turn around.

The CHAIRMAN: I think that is a good idea, although the chairman could not see it in that case.

Hon. Mr. GOUIN: Mr. Chairman, I do not know if this would be the proper time for me to make some remarks, but it seems to me that the number of designs is now so much reduced that it would be important for us to have some further opportunity to take note of the letters which have been received so that we may be in a position to appreciate better what is the feeling of the country with respect to the choice of our national flag. It might be that by reading those letters we could come to some suggestion which would represent a happy compromise and help us finally to achieve unity because,—and I say this very sincerely, Mr. Chairman,—if we make our choice here without being able to find unanimity, I doubt very much if, in the heart of the people, the flag which would be the choice of the majority of this committee would really meet with popular approval. I have always thought that it would be possible for us to reach a happy compromise. The line of division seems to be between the maple leaf without the union jack and the maple leaf with the union jack. If it was possible, for instance, to combine some of those designs so that we could retain a symbol acceptable to those who want to keep the union jack, and which at the same time would make for greater unity in this dominion of ours from coast to coast, I think it would be a good thing. I look, for instance, at flag No. 4, and I do not think that the design, which I think was submitted by Colonel Duguid, would represent exactly my idea as to colour or as to proportion. But if I look at No. 5, which I understand has up to date received the greater number of votes, the modified red ensign with



a gold maple leaf, I think that the crown which we find on No. 4, if it were to replace the union jack, would symbolize just as well as the union jack our common allegiance to His Majesty the King and our loyalty to the monarchy. To express my whole thought, the truth is that the union jack has become for us a symbol of freedom and of justice, but once upon a time it was the flag of the conqueror. When we turn to the crown I think there is no possible discussion about it, that the crown is a sacred emblem perfectly acceptable, for instance, to all Canadians of French origin like myself; and whether we say, as we used to say in the olden times, "Vive le roi," or whether we say "Long live the King", it is with the same love and the same affection that we turn to the King as being the living embodiment of our unity, not only in this country but also throughout the British Commonwealth.

I have taken note, for instance, of a few of the documents which have been submitted to the secretary of this committee, and if you would allow me to take just a few minutes, I should like to bring to the attention of the committee first of all the fact that for every Canadian the present question is really a vital question, and that our choice is a choice which should mean that a given flag would be flown in this country for a century or more, or perhaps for ever. If I turn, for instance, to a number of the *Maple Leaf*—which was the newspaper published for the Canadian armed forces overseas,—of December 10, 1945, I see that this number was addressed to this committee by a returned man from Alberta by the name of Wilk. He states that he wants this number of The *Maple Leaf* to be submitted to us because he has made that promise to the boys who were with him overseas. In this number of the *Maple Leaf* they were discussing the so-called battle standard originally submitted. I believed, by Colonel Duguid, the union jack with the three fleurs de lis in the right corner and the three autumn-coloured maple leaves. They were discussing that, and these men, with the frankness of soldiers, were objecting in particular to the presence of the fleurs de lis. It has already been noted that we of French extraction do not insist at all on having the fleur-de-lis in our national flag. Letters were sent in in great number and they say that there is overwhelming opposition to the flag then submitted. They add that each mail brings additional dozens of letters from, for the most part, angry men and women of all ranks, each condemning the flag design. Then there are references to some units where a round robin was circulated. For instance, we see in one unit of the air force where there were 261 men, 259 answered "No" to the question whether they like the proposed flag and only 2 voted in favour of it. There is also mention of a Canadian army unit of 66, who all voted against the flag in question.

I see also a letter addressed to this committee by a returned man, L.A.C. Chubb, and in his unit in England at Oldham they posted a list with a sample of the various flags. We have first of all the flag representing the maple leaf on a red triangle and the white triangle, and there were no votes at all for it. Then there is an elaborate design which is no longer before this committee, with some fleurs de lis and the maple leaf and so on, with no vote for it. There is a design consisting of some stars to represent the provinces, and it got only one vote. But then we come to a design of a red triangle, a white stripe and a blue triangle, and the maple leaf on the white stripe, and we see that 10 men voted for that other design; and by reading rapidly through those names, I do not think that I find any names of Canadians of French origin. They are all English names. I take another flag, the red maple leaf on a white background, and I see 300 names; and I do not think that 5 per cent of the names in question, all air force personnel, are men of French origin. Then there is one with the union jack, the beaver and some maple leaves; and nobody signed in favour of it. There is another one with

the union jack and three horizontal stripes, red, white and blue; and nobody signed for it.

My humble suggestion would be that we be given some further opportunity to think it over; and moreover, that the public be given the opportunity to know that there are before this committee now only half a dozen designs. If the National Film Board were to screen those designs and if they were circulated with the news in the different moving picture houses of this country, I really believe that the public response would be very, very significant and that we would, so to speak, be guided in that way by the nation as a whole, which should have the real choice, I think, in this matter.

Hon. Mr. WHITE: Mr. Chairman, like every other member of the committee I have received scores of letters from a certain section of the country, many of them written by school children, and a lot of them along the same lines, indicating that the writers of those letters have been brought up to disregard the union jack. Now my honourable friend Senator Gouin has suggested that the crown, which he says is symbolic of the British Commonwealth of Nations, I assume, might replace the union jack. It appears to me that the crown is not symbolic alone of the British Commonwealth of Nations. I think there are other countries as well that use a crown. As far as I am personally concerned, I have no hesitancy in saying that I am favourable to having the union jack in the design. Whether we have any other symbol is a question, but personally I favour the union jack.

The CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, I should like to point out that there is no motion before us unless it is those motions we made last week. I am grateful, however, to Senator Gouin for the information he gave us and the reasoned argument in favour of a particular flag. However, I suggest that it was out of order. Although I let it go on, I thought that we could debate it when we came to that flag, if it was still among those on the board.

The situation is this. We have one other flag here which has only two supporters. I was going to suggest to the committee that if they, in their wisdom, eliminated that, that would be the conclusion of our day's debate and we might then leave the thing until next week some time to consider the remainder; and at that time perhaps Senator Gouin would renew his suggestion, and the committee would have an opportunity to see in the meantime what the public desired.

Mr. ZAPLITNY: In order to get down to something concrete, I should like to make a motion, seconded by Mr. Castleden. The motion reads as follows: That the six designs now on the panel be constructed to correct size, proportion and shades of colour and displayed both inside and outside this building; and further that steps be taken by this committee to give wide publicity to these designs through such channels as the press and screen.

Mr. MacNICOL: Speaking to the motion, as the flag up in the right-hand corner has been mentioned, may I say that the committee should remember that of the 2,409 flags that were sent in from all over Canada, only 49 had the crown on. It was one of the lowest in number of all the designs sent to the flag committee. I would think that the flag with the crown on it should go out at once.

Mr. CASTLEDEN: I should like to second the motion made by Mr. Zaplitny, in order to regularize it.

Mr. REID: Speaking to the motion, one of the difficulties I see regarding the motion is this, and we might as well face it. As to flying six flags, how long are you going to fly them? If you are going to do that, you might as well go further and fly them in every province and in every town. Who is going to make a decision after you put the six of them in? This committee? How long will each member of this committee require the flags to be flying



at the masthead until each of us makes his decision different from what he has made it right now? I am not thinking of the practical end of it. How long will they fly? Are they going to fly on good days and bad days? Will they all be up so that we can see them, or will they be where those who are short-sighted will not be able to see them at all? I am thinking of the practical end of it. I am objecting to this going through.

Mr. BEAUDOIN: Could the committee know which flag you are talking about, Mr. Chairman?

The CHAIRMAN: Yes. I was going to suggest this. I do not think Mr. Zaplitny would want to put the hard-pressed tax payers to the expense of having made a flag which only two of the 37 members of this committee are supporting. No. 3 has only two supporters in this group. I would suggest we might dispose of it before we consider the manufacture of any design.

Mr. BEAUDOIN: As an amendment to the motion made by Mr. Zaplitny, may I move that the committee dispose of this flag No. 3. If it is agreeable to the committee, I would move that.

Mr. SMITH: I second the amendment.

The CHAIRMAN: There is a motion that we manufacture copies of these flags; and by way of an amendment there is a motion that we drop No. 3 from our consideration.

Mr. BEAUDOIN: I might explain, since the major part of the motion made by my friend was contained in a similar motion which I made yesterday, that I understood that the point of view of the committee was for further elimination to take place, and that the motion may be entertained later. So at this stage I would move as an amendment that this flag No. 3 be eliminated.

Mr. McIVOR: Mr. Chairman, ordinarily when I have something to do I like to thresh through and do it. Since I have come to this House I have sat on some committees and I have learned a few things and one was not to be in too big hurry. But I do not care how long I wait I will oppose that flag on the right-hand corner; I do not think it is a good maple leaf. I do not think it has in it anything that the people of Canada want. As I said before in another place those three maple leaves look more like the immortal shamrock, and it would not be fair to discuss that flag in this committee.

Hon. Mr. QUINN: Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, I can see that this committee is going to be deadlocked; I can see that we cannot arrive at a conclusion which is going to be satisfactory to everybody. Now, I was very much taken with the remarks of Senator Gouin. He used the word "compromise". I think we have got to compromise before we can arrive at a decision. We have got to keep uppermost in our minds that we have to arrive at a decision in this committee which will be conducive to national unity in this country. However, I can see this committee divided as between a selection of the flag incorporating the union jack in its most prominent position, the left-hand staff corner, and a flag which displays the maple leaf in a prominent place. If we go through with this process of elimination one or the other of the parties is going to carry its point. Then, do you arrive at a decision which is going to be satisfactory to all of the people of Canada? We must bear in mind that less than 50 per cent of the population of Canada are of British origin; we must keep in mind that one-third of our population is of French origin; and the remainder are made up of various nationalities which we may consider have no special allegiance or any particular desire to have the union jack incorporated in our national flag. My remarks are on record at a previous meeting. At that time I said that I would take second place to no one in my loyalty and devotion and allegiance to the British flag, but having said that I claim now that the national flag of another country should not be incorporated in the national flag of Canada where we have so many various mixed races. Let us go on and decide

on a spirit of compromise. If we have a flag with the union jack on it we are going to displease 50 per cent of our population; if we have one with the maple leaf on it but without the union jack we are going to displease the other 50 per cent. Now, in a spirit of compromise I think the suggestion of Senator Gouin is an excellent one. We have there the emblem of Canada, and uppermost in our minds Canada must be kept; we are Canadians first before we are British. When we include the royal crown—

The CHAIRMAN: Now, may I point out to the senator that we are not discussing that flag; we are discussing No. 3 which is being dropped by motion.

Hon. Mr. QUINN: Am I out of order in referring to the remarks of the senator who has preceded me?

The CHAIRMAN: Yes. I pointed out to the committee that I was perhaps lax in my duty in not suggesting that he was out of order, and I only allowed him to continue because I thought we might save time by so doing; but the amendment before the committee is that No. 3 flag be dropped from our consideration. That is the point now. We are not discussing No. 4 flag at all.

Hon. Mr. QUINN: I will not refer to No. 4. I maintain that if we are to arrive at a satisfactory conclusion, a conclusion which will be satisfactory to all the people of Canada, we must have a flag without the union jack. But having in mind the breakdown which Mr. MacNicol made here the other day when he pointed out that the maple leaf had by far the majority of the submissions which had been sent in to us, I think we should first consider the inclusion of the maple leaf.

An Hon. MEMBER: It is on every flag there.

Hon. Mr. QUINN: It is on every flag there, that is true; but I point out that if we incorporate the union jack and give it a prominent place in our national flag we are not going to have it receive acceptance by a great number of people, half the population of the Dominion of Canada. Now, in a spirit of compromise I suggest that we have a flag and consider a flag which does not incorporate the flag of another nation in its most prominent place.

Hon. Mr. DAVIES: I would like to speak for a moment and I will speak of No. 3 which only got two votes, so it should be eliminated. Following up after putting myself in order, may I say that I am beginning to think that the only solution of this matter is to give it a six months' hoist. We have had this flag question before us for years. Mr. Cameron MacIntosh wanted to have a Canadian flag, and Mr. Hugh Savage, whom I know intimately, has interested himself in this matter. Now, Senator Quinn suggested that we should compromise. The only compromise I can see here at the moment is of the type suggested in the story of the man and his wife who went on their honeymoon; the wife wanted to go to the seaside and the husband wanted to go to the mountains, so they compromised and went to Atlantic City. That seems to be about the only kind of compromise we can make. As I said the other day, the province of Ontario, which is a large and powerful province and is probably predominantly British, will be very disappointed if we adopt a flag which has not the union jack on it; on the other hand I realize that the province of Quebec will not want the union jack. Now, as I see it, the only thing to do is to give the matter the six months' hoist and let us think over it for a few months more.

The CHAIRMAN: How many are in favour of the amendment to drop No. 3? Motion agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN: Now, Mr. Zaplitny, wanted to move a motion.

Mr. BEAUDOIN: Mr. Chairman, I think all members of this committee have been moved by the remarks made by Senator Gouin and Senator Quinn, and the honourable member to my right. They have all supported taking time in order to arrive at some sort of a compromise if it is at all possible. I think



everyone is facing the situation as it should be faced, and they all agree, I believe, that we might need at this time a few hours for reflection. Therefore, if it is agreeable to the members of this committee in consideration of what has been said and in consideration of the importance of the matter, I think we should call it a day and therefore I move the adjournment of the committee.

Mr. CASTLEDEN: Mr. Chairman, there is a motion before the committee.

Hon. Mr. GOUIN: I do not know if I am in order, but to complete my remarks I would move the following motion: "that a subcommittee of, say, five members be appointed for the purpose of considering the designs which are still on the panel, of taking note of all the letters received and, if deemed advisable, of submitting a new design." I should regret very much if this were the end of the work which has been done up to the present, and I still hope that there is a possibility of us coming to a conclusion.

The CHAIRMAN: May I point out to the senator that he is not in order. We have before us the motion of Mr. Zaplitny. I asked if he wanted to move it and I have not yet been favoured.

Hon. Mr. LAMBERT: If Mr. Castleden and Mr. Zaplitny would move a new motion relating to the five flags they would be in order.

Mr. ZAPLITNY: It is necessary to change the number. If it is the wish of the committee that some time limit be incorporated in the motion as to the length of time a flag shall be flown that can be done, and if this motion were adopted we could decide by a subsequent motion as to how long we want these flags flown.

The CHAIRMAN: May I point out that I am quite in favour, in my capacity as neutral chairman, to the manufacture of these five flags, but I do suggest that they should not be flown outside of the building. We have no authority to do that. We do not want to get orders in council to authorize such a course of action, and the number of people who would see the flags in Ottawa would represent a very limited opinion in the Dominion of Canada. So I was going to suggest that you might drop that part of your motion.

Mr. EMMERSON: Mr. Chairman, one of the things we are supposed to do is to select a distinctive flag. Now, that means that a flag should be seen at a distance both when the wind is blowing and when the day is calm so that one would be able to tell what the flag is like. I venture to say that there are one or two designs there that one could not tell at a distance when the wind is blowing. I do not see how we are to get any idea of what a flag looks like by coming into a room where everything is calm unless you put it on the wall; and that is not the way it is going to fly.

Mr. ZAPLITNY: My intention in the motion of flying the flag outside was not to display it to the public; it was to make it possible for this committee to see the flag under, shall we say, natural conditions and with the background of nature behind it. If it is the feeling of the committee that we should not let the public in on it, so to speak, until a decision is reached, I suggest that we take the flags out somewhere, to an open field, or some other secluded spot, and take the committee out there and let them gaze to their heart's content.

Mr. REID: One of the reasons why I was against flying the flag was that we are at this moment considering in our minds the principle of these flags. Make no mistake about that, the principle is no union jack on the flag or the principle is that we are going to have it. Suppose this committee chose one of those flags. That is not to say that it would select that one design at the bottom. Someone might change the maple leaf and move it down and make other changes, and a principle is adopted. I can see no good in taking those five flags and flying them until we get the principle adopted.

Hon. Mr. HOWDEN: Mr. Chairman, as I said the other day we might as well recognize facts; there are only two flags on that board that the committee is interested in. The bulk of opinion on one side is interested in the old red ensign, and I think the flag that interests the majority of the people in the province of Quebec is what is now No. 2. If a process of elimination were adopted now we would eliminate these other flags. I am all for compromise, as I said the other day. I do not think that flying the flags outside is going to get us anywhere. We have five flags now with various suggestions and ideas on those five flags. Could we not submit those five flags to some persons whose business it is to consider flags and ask them to support, if necessary, alternative suggestions whereby we will receive a compromise as between one side and the other. We are not bound to accept any one of these flags, but in the long run we are bound to settle this matter by the vote of the majority. Now, if we can find somebody who understands flags, someone on whom we will put the obligation of making a compromise as between these two sets of flags, pre-eminently between the red ensign and that one favoured by the province of Quebec with the maple leaf in the centre—if such a thing is possible, let us have something submitted to this committee, something in the form of a compromise.

In the meantime if a motion is not out of order I will move as an amendment that before the committee take any further action in this matter the five flags now on the board be submitted to expert opinion with a request that the compromises be submitted to this committee for their consideration.

Mr. MELVOR: Dr. Howden has usually a lot of sense in his head, but I think when these five flags are sent to a committee the committee should know the number of votes which each flag got. I believe he is wise in saying that the matter boils down to those two flags, and the compromise should be between those two. I was not in at the beginning and I do not know how many votes each flag received, but I know that a large proportion of the committee is in favour of those two flags; at least that is my guess.

The CHAIRMAN: Before Mr. Melvor rose I was going to point out to Senator Howden that his motion is not good. You are, if I may use the phrase, on the wrong track. The flag you are thinking of as having the majority of votes in the province of Quebec is not the one which has the majority of votes in that province. If the committee wishes me to do so I will give the voting as it was on the remaining flags.

Hon. Mr. HOWDEN: That does not make any difference. Let us consider these five flags and offer compromises. Mine is an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN: Yes. We have had a motion from Mr. Zaplitny that we manufacture on of each of these flags and for our own information hold an outdoor meeting to consider them. We have had an amendment that we refer the five flags to experts; and if I remember correctly what Senator Gouin said he wanted to refer them to a subcommittee of this committee. Now, was that the basis?

Hon. Mr. GOUIN: I think it would be simpler if I was seconding the motion to refer the flags to experts. That would simplify the procedure.

The CHAIRMAN: I think that motion is proceeded with. I wonder how Senator Howden would indicate what course we will adopt? We will have the experts and when they have told us all they think about the flags, what are we going to do about it?

Hon. Mr. HOWDEN: At the present time we are at a deadlock.

The CHAIRMAN: No, we are not. We have eliminated four flags to-day in fifty minutes, and I hope to adjourn within the next ten minutes with a good day's work done.



Hon. Mr. HOWDEN: I say that if you eliminate them all but two you will still be in a deadlock.

Hon. Mr. STIRLING: May we have the voting numbers?

The CHAIRMAN: If the committee wishes. No. 2 received three votes; No. 4 received four votes; No. 5 received seven votes; No. 7 received four votes; No. 8 received three votes. So you will see we are not yet deadlocked; we have a number of choices.

Hon. Mr. LAMBERT: I think it is very important that we know what the next step to be taken is, and in regard to that step I think it is important to know what should be done with these five flags now. The suggestion I have in mind is that a small subcommittee be appointed at this meeting to consider exactly what might be the best thing to do with these flags and report back to this full committee. I will point out at the same time in doing that that the duty of this committee is not to consider anything else than its own opinions about these flags; the question as to whether they reflect the opinion or sentiment of the people of Canada as a whole is not of any particular moment to this committee, because remember that in the ultimate analysis the report of this committee has to go back to parliament and there you will have full opportunity of reflecting the will and the sentiment of the people of Canada. It seems to me that if this committee would keep its eye on that one objective of getting a report on these five flags—if they boil them down to a smaller number, all right—it is quite conceivable we could have a majority report and a minority report—if that is as far as we can go then parliament will have to decide, but I think we should realize definitely that we are responsible to parliament and not to the people of Canada. For that reason, I think to get a better look at this matter the chairman could suggest a small committee of five or seven.

Hon. Mr. HOWDEN: I withdraw my amendment in favour of that suggestion.

The CHAIRMAN: Now, gentlemen, we have Mr. Zaplitny's motion that we manufacture these flags and display them and we have the amendment that we refer the five flags to a committee for the purpose of study and for report back to this committee.

Mr. REID: I would move that.

Hon. Mr. HOWDEN: Would you give that subcommittee power to consult anybody else?

The CHAIRMAN: That, I think, is the object. How many do you want on your committee?

Mr. REID: Seven.

The CHAIRMAN: A committee of seven consisting of five members of the House of Commons and two members of the Senate; would that be agreeable?

Mr. HANSELL: I am not in favour of putting this responsibility on five or seven men because I do not see that they can do any more than the committee itself can do. I do not think they know, or any seven men know any more about flags than the rest of us. I do not think there are seven experts, consequently they would have to call some experts to talk to them. Why not call the experts and have them talk to us all and then we would all know what we are doing? I do not believe that this is satisfactory; it is not to me anyway; I would rather have the experts come here and lay their cards on the table; and we can all hear what they have to say. I believe that we have been wrong in our attitude that there is a deadlock on this matter. Personally I say go ahead and eliminate these flags and then call the experts; but I am against a sub-committee being set up to do the work that we all should do.

Mr. REID: My reason for moving the motion was not to have a small committee to do what this committee should do; my idea was that perhaps a small

committee with a little time on their hands could bring before this committee suggestions for the next step, and we would not be at sixes and sevens.

Mr. HANSELL: Oh, on procedure? O.K.

The CHAIRMAN: Now, you have heard the amendment.

Mr. CASTLEDEN: This committee will recommend on procedure in regard to this matter and that is all?

The CHAIRMAN: That is all.

Hon. Mr. STIRLING: Did I not understand that this committee was going to listen to the views of experts as well?

Hon. Mr. LAMBERT: No.

Hon. Mr. STIRLING: Is that a suggestion that was not adopted?

Hon. Mr. LAMBERT: Yes.

Mr. MACNICOL: I wonder why we have not had any minutes of any of our meetings, and I also wonder if any of the committee remember what vote was given to the various parts of the 2,409 flags that came in. I think whatever committee is appointed or whatever experts are called they should know that out of 2,409 flags 1,661 called for the maple leaf and that 51 per cent or 1,209 of the 2,409 called for the union jack. 383 of them called for the union jack in the prominent place on the flag, the red ensign, while 49 of them and only 49 called for the crown. The crown, it will be observed, was away down the scale. I do not see why we should go to the trouble of making a flag with a crown on it when it only had 49 votes out of 2,409.

Mr. BEAUDOIN: On a point of order, is the honourable member speaking to the amendment?

The CHAIRMAN: No. I will answer your question in a minute.

Mr. MATTHEWS: You gave out numbers and the votes for each flag. Now, with regard to that first flag what number do we regard as its number now?

The CHAIRMAN: The number is underneath it, it is No. 2. We will leave them as they are.

Mr. MATTHEWS: It is still No. 2?

The CHAIRMAN: Yes.

Mr. LACROIX: Will you read the amendment?

The CHAIRMAN: The amendment by Mr. Reid is: "that a subcommittee consisting of five members of the House of Commons and two from the Senate and the two chairmen should be appointed for the purpose of bringing in a report to this committee as to the procedure to be adopted from now on."

Mr. CASTLEDEN: The motion before the committee suggests procedure, and this amendment is scarcely an amendment. In order to legalize it I believe both the mover and myself are willing to withdraw the motion and let this stand as a motion.

Motion agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN: In a moment we will adjourn. Mr. MacNicol has raised the question of the information as to the particular designs. All that information is tabulated and is in the hands of the secretary; but I would like to point out that of the 2,409 designs submitted a great many were sent in by one individual, so you cannot say that in all the Dominion of Canada so many designs were sent in by so many people.

Mr. LAFONTAINE: One man has sent in 101.

Mr. LACROIX: You are right. I am glad to hear that from you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. CASTLEDEN: Mr. Chairman, I have sat on a number of committees but this one is unique because of the fact that one member of the committee



has endeavoured from the beginning to present a motion and in every case that motion has been ruled out of order. I believe that that is denying that member a right. I believe that Mr. LaCroix has proposed his motion in this committee time and time again ever since our work started and the motion has been declared out of order. Surely, at some time such a motion is in order, and I would like to say that I should like to see that motion placed before the committee and voted upon. I will vote against it; but in the name of what is right I believe he has the right to bring in a motion and that right should never be denied to a member of the committee. I suggest that not for this meeting but in the future.

Mr. BEAUDOIN: Mr. Chairman, I move the adjournment of the committee.

The committee adjourned to meet at the call of the chair.





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Canada - National Flag, Joint Committee  
of the Senate and House of Commons  
1946 (SESSION 1946)



JOINT COMMITTEE OF THE SENATE AND  
THE HOUSE OF COMMONS

Appointed to Consider and Report Upon  
a Suitable Design for a Distinctive

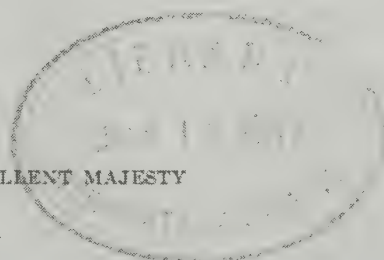
NATIONAL FLAG  
FOR CANADA

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AND EVIDENCE

No. 4

TUESDAY, MAY 21, 1946  
WEDNESDAY, MAY 22, 1946

OTTAWA  
EDMOND CLOUTIER  
PRINTER TO THE KING'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY  
1946







## MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

HOUSE OF COMMONS, ROOM 277,

TUESDAY, May 21, 1946.

The Joint Committee of the Senate and the House of Commons appointed to consider and report upon a suitable design for a distinctive national flag for Canada, met this day at 4 p.m. Honourable Senator N. P. Lambert, Chairman of the Senate section presided.

*Present:*

*The Senate:* Senators Aseltine, Gershaw, Howden, Johnston, Lambert, Leger, Quinn, Robinson and White.

*The House of Commons:* Messrs Beaudoin, Blanchette, Castleden, Emerson, Gladstone, Hackett, Harris (*Grey-Bruce*), LaCroix, Lafontaine, Macdonnell (*Muskoka-Ontario*), MacNicol, Matthews (*Brandon*), McCulloch (*Pictou*), Melvor, Reid, Smith (*Calgary West*), Stirling, Thatcher, Warren, Zaplitny.

The Chairman called the meeting to order and asked the Joint-Chairman (Mr. W. E. Harris) to report from the sub-committee meeting held at 2 p.m. this date.

Mr. Harris stated that the sub-committee recommended that one more ballot be taken in the same manner as heretofore; and in the light of this ballot, the committee would be able to chart its procedure.

Mr. Gladstone moved the adoption of the said sub-committee report.  
In amendment thereto Senator Howden moved,—

That the Committee proceed to select the flag by compromise rather than by ballot.

The Chairman stated he did not wish to rule Senator Howden's amendment out of order but pointed out that it lacked any detailed suggestions as to how the committee could compromise.

By leave, Senator Howden withdrew his amendment.

The question being put on the motion of Mr. Gladstone, it was resolved in the affirmative.

It was moved by Mr. McCulloch,—

That the ballots of the members be in the hands of the Clerk of the Committee by noon, Wednesday 22nd.

In amendment thereto Mr. LaCroix moved,—

That one week be allowed for balloting.

And the question being put on Mr. LaCroix's amendment it was negatived.

The question being put on the motion of Mr. McCulloch it was resolved in the affirmative.

At 5.50 p.m. the Committee adjourned to meet again at the call of the chair.

## MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

HOUSE OF COMMONS, ROOM 277,

WEDNESDAY, May 22, 1946.

The Joint Committee of the Senate and the House of Commons appointed to consider and report upon a suitable design for a distinctive flag for Canada, met this day at 4 p.m. Mr. W. E. Harris, Chairman of the House of Commons section presided.

*Present:*

*The Senate:* Senators Aseltine, Gershaw, Gouin, Howden, Johnston, Quinn, Robinson, White.

*The House of Commons:* Messrs Beaudoin, Blanchette, Castleden, Emerson, Gladstone, Harris (*Grey-Bruce*), Herridge, LaCroix, Latontaine, MacNicol, Matthews (*Brandon*), McCulloch (*Pictou*), Reid, Smith (*Calgary West*), Thatcher, Warren.

The Chairman asked the Clerk to announce the results of the ballot authorized at the previous meeting.

The Clerk announced the results as follows, Design No. 2, 4; No. 4, 5; No. 5, 19; No. 7, 4; No. 8, 2. Total ballots cast thirty-four.

On the motion of Senator Howden, No. 8 was eliminated.

The Chairman placed before the committee copies of a series of orders-in-council passed over a period of years dealing with the flying of flags by government agencies and other Canadians, it was ordered that they be printed as an appendix to the proceedings of this date.

Mr. Smith moved,—

That the sub-committee be authorized to consider and recommend to the committee at the next meeting the procedure next to be followed.

Mr. Warren moved in amendment,—

That the committee take another ballot to reduce the four designs still remaining.

On being put Mr. Warren's amendment was negatived, and the motion of Mr. Smith affirmed.

At 4.45 p.m. the committee adjourned to meet again at the call of the chair.

F. J. CORCORAN,

*Clerk of the Joint Committee.*



## MINUTES OF EVIDENCE

HOUSE OF COMMONS,

MAY 21, 1946.

The Joint Special Committee of the Senate and the House of Commons appointed to consider and report upon a suitable design for a distinctive national flag for Canada, met this day at 5 o'clock p.m. Hon. Mr. N. P. Lambert (Chairman of the Senate section of the Joint Committee), presided:

The CHAIRMAN: The subcommittee which you appointed at the last meeting met at 2 o'clock this afternoon to discuss the procedure that would be followed in connection with these remaining five flags. I would ask Mr. Harris now to report to you the results of that meeting.

Mr. HARRIS: Mr. Chairman, we decided to recommend to the committee that another ballot be taken between to-day and to-morrow, and that our course then would be adopted having regard to the result of the ballot; in other words, that we continue at least one more of the ballots that we have had in the same manner as before.

Mr. BLANCHETTE: Mr. Chairman, as a member of the subcommittee that met at 2 o'clock this afternoon, as I advised the subcommittee at the time, I am not in accord with that suggestion. At the last meeting that we had, some of the members got up and expressed the opinion that there should be more delay in connection with any further balloting. The reason advanced for that opinion was this, if I remember it correctly, that very few of the members have taken cognizance of the documentation and the correspondence that has been sent in, and some of this correspondence is of a serious nature and has certain weight to it. The reason why we have not had time to look this documentation over is that unfortunately the clerk of the committee fell sick and the documentation was not available to us. This is one of the reasons why I do not approve of the recommendation which was made by the subcommittee.

The second reason is this, Mr. Chairman. There is presently on the table of this committee a motion and an amendment to that motion. It might be that if any further balloting is taken, the subject matter of the amendment proposed might be eliminated and the result will be, therefore, that at a future meeting, if we should take from the table the motion and the amendment, the amendment will not be there any longer, owing to the fact that it had been disposed of by secret ballot. It seems to me it would be a much better way to proceed, to give a little more time to the members of the committee to examine the documentation that has been sent in and the correspondence that has been submitted. I do not think there is anything to be gained by further balloting for flags to be done by this committee. The only thing that a delay would do would be to undoubtedly help us along in coming to a choice which would be more agreeable to the whole country. Therefore I do not approve of the suggestion that has been put out by the sub-committee.

The CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, I should have pointed out to you that there is not any motion before the committee at the moment. The report of the subcommittee was submitted to you by Mr. Harris who acted as chairman of that committee to-day. In the report he submitted, he represented all the members of that committee, with the exception of Mr. Blanchette who has just stated his reasons for not agreeing with it. But I think, to bring the discussion to the proper basis now, there should be a motion to adopt that report; following that any further discussion you would like to have could take place.

Mr. GLADSTONE: As a member of that subcommittee, I would move the adoption of the report.

Mr. MACDONNELL: Mr. Chairman, could we have that report read? I must have been much later than I thought. I thought I was right here at the start.

The CHAIRMAN: I would ask Mr. Harris to give it again.

Mr. HARRIS: The subcommittee met and decided to recommend to the committee that we proceed in the same manner as we have heretofore done, to the extent of at least one more ballot; that you cast a ballot between now and a meeting to be held to-morrow, for your favourite flag, and that at the meeting to-morrow we consider then what we should do in the light of the returns on that ballot.

Mr. LACROIX: Mr. Chairman, I entirely agree with what has already been said by Mr. Blanchette in connection with procedure. If I understand rightly, the procedure which is proposed to us by the steering committee appointed at the last meeting, is to proceed to a new selection of one or two designs for a Canadian national flag; that is to say, if I am correct in my understanding, the one which secured the least number of votes would disappear from the board. For instance, if the flag of La Ligue du Drapeau Nationale in this new selection secures the least number of adherents, it will entirely disappear from the board, and the design which includes the crown with the maple leaf may be the next one, and so on, till we reach the final design which, of course, appears to me to be the red ensign with a maple leaf. What a comedy, Mr. Chairman and members of the committee!

The only object of this procedure is to avoid publication and making publicly known the names of those voting against or in favour of the union jack being included in the design to be chosen. Some will say that they want to proceed in that way in order not to hurt the feelings of the Quebec members who are against the union jack. What a pity! Because I really think that every member of this committee with a real sense of responsibility, will like it much better to have the public know exactly where it stands. On the other hand, it is the most ridiculous procedure, because every newspaper man may know from the secretary of the committee the names of those who have voted for a particular flag, unless of course an order to the contrary is given to him by the chairman.

Mr. HARRIS: Well, it has been, just in case you want to know.

Mr. LACROIX: I know that my friend Mr. Blanchette is not very enthusiastic about this procedure—and neither am I—which will suppress, as a matter of fact, through the next selection which will follow this meeting, the flag sponsored by him; that is to say, the flag of La Ligue du Drapeau Nationale.

I think it would have been much more commonsense to proceed in the way which was first of all decided; that is to say, through a main motion and amendments. The steering committee just want us to move in a soft manner towards the ultimate objective, which is a choice by this committee of the red ensign including the maple leaf. As far as I am concerned, I want my position to be made very clear. I will vote against any selection of a flag which will include the union jack. In doing so, I will not only respect the unanimous opinion of my province, but will answer in the right sense to the task which has been imposed on us by the House of Commons; that is to say, the choice of a really distinctive Canadian flag without any sign on it of colonialism or subjection to another country. I really think our boys have been fighting overseas for that purpose; and as already indicated to us by Senator Gouin, it has been clearly indicated that way through a plebiscite organized by the *Maple Leaf*, the official newspaper of those who served overseas.

A lot of people are speaking of taking into consideration the rights of the minority in this country; but up until now, let me tell you sincerely Mr. Chairman, especially during this session, it appears to me that this angle of our national unity is entirely ignored.

Hon. Mr. HOWDEN: Have you a seconder for that motion, Mr. Chairman?



The CHAIRMAN: It does not need one.

Hon. Mr. HOWDEN: Mr. Chairman, I think I will make an amendment, if you do not mind. I do not like to annoy this committee, but it is very evident that we are heading in one definite way, and that is to decide this matter by ballot. I think it was partially agreed by the committee some little time ago that, if possible, we should try to avoid that method. I would move that the committee shall proceed to select a flag by compromise rather than by ballot, if possible.

Hon. Mr. QUINN: Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, in the first place I want to object to the recommendation of the subcommittee. There are, as I understand it, members of that committee who were not notified to attend that meeting. There were no representatives of the Senate there. They were not present. I do not think this committee should have made the recommendation until those members had been notified of the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN: Senator Quinn, as a matter of fact there were members of the Senate at the committee meeting this afternoon. I was one of them, and Senator Robinson was another.

Hon. Mr. QUINN: Then I have been misinformed.

Hon. Mr. LÉGER: I was not notified.

The CHAIRMAN: Well, I was not either; but I was informed by word of mouth.

Hon. Mr. LÉGER: I did not get that in any way.

The CHAIRMAN: I might explain that there was some oversight this morning in connection with the notifying of the Senate members of that subcommittee. The secretary, who was supposed to have been given verbal instructions by Mr. Chasse, did not deliver them. That is the explanation that was given to me. In any event, that shortcoming was overcome by Mr. Harris seeing that verbal notice was given, and we were able to meet.

Mr. GLADSTONE: Mr. Chasse is in the hospital. I understand.

Mr. BEAUDOIN: Do I understand the subcommittee did not meet, Mr. Chairman?

The CHAIRMAN: It did meet.

Hon. Mr. QUINN: Mr. Chairman, I am in agreement with Senator Howden that we should try to arrive at a compromise in this matter if we want to succeed.

You will recall that the last time we met I supported a suggestion by Senator Gouin, which was along the lines of a compromise eliminating the union jack and what is called—

Mr. MACNICOL: Eliminate the union jack?

Hon. Mr. QUINN: Eliminate the flag with the union jack. You cannot take offence at that, you wanted to eliminate the crown just a little while ago. You said, "out the crown", at one of the previous meetings. However, that has nothing to do with what I wanted to say.

Senator Gouin suggested in the way of a compromise, this flag here, (indicating) with the maple leaves and the crown. I support that simply because I thought this would do as a compromise.

Since our last meeting I have had several letters, a great many of them from veterans of world war II, and every one of those which I received was in favour of the elimination of the union jack on our national flag. I received those letters from Vancouver, and all over the country—Nova Scotia. Here is one from a member of the air force who sent in a design himself, a design which was not successful. Anyway, he says: "it is gratifying to read your proposal for compromise in the selection of a design for a Canadian flag. I am sure there are millions of Canadians who endorse your, and Senator Gouin's stand." Then it goes on to refer to the design that he sent in here which was

white and red with a maple leaf in the centre and a crown in the corner. I have another letter from a former member of the air force who was over there six years and received a decoration for service in the war, and I received his letter since our last meeting; and he asks me, was a design considered along these very lines; and the design he suggested was one of two colours, red and white, with the white nearest the staff and a wreath of maple leaves instead of three in a half circle and surmounted by a crown.

I submit, Mr. Chairman, that would be an excellent design. I have mentioned it to several since, and they were impressed.

And now, in view of the attitude of our men overseas, a great many of whom have already expressed themselves as in favour of eliminating the union jack, I feel that I am voicing the Canadian mentality of the youthful veterans of world war II, my own two sons among them, who have returned home fiercely Canadian. These young men are fully conscious of what Canada has done during this recent war in supplying men, ammunition, food, materials, etc., and who have returned to their motherland—CANADA—proud of Canadian achievement. More than that: their sojourn overseas has generated in their minds and hearts a reasonable understanding of the greatness of their country, and they have discovered the high esteem that other nations entertain for the national greatness and future leadership of Canada. Wherefore, I say, these young veterans are most desirous that their Canada should have the distinctive symbols of nationality.

I am not unmindful of the various petitions sent to us by the various leagues demanding the retention of the union jack. These leagues are comprised of splendid, patriotic men and women, but they possess the mentality of thirty years ago. Canada has miraculously progressed in every sphere since 1918, and particularly in the realization of the arrival of national maturity.

Canada needs more to-day than ever in her history—unity—because without it she cannot capitalize on her recent achievements and she cannot be the national force for good in her international discussions. But unity is sadly lacking and nowhere is this more sadly lacking than in these very Halls of Parliament. Recent debates on the citizenship and Canada day amply prove this. There is a cleavage between the French- and English-speaking Canadians and it is my considered opinion that the fault lies mostly with our English-speaking Canadians. One member recently inveighed heavily against hyphenated Canadians. But did he not know that the so-called French Canadian is a production of the mind and tongue of English-speaking Canadians. I have been associated with French Canadians for over twenty years and know that they call themselves purely and simply Canadians. No, I am afraid that we of the English tongue are responsible for a great deal of the disunity in Canada. What with our union jack flag waving, our dislike for French Canadian suggestions, our reference to Great Britain as motherland, with no reference to Canadian motherland. All this and more have naturally caused French Canadians to look askance at our Canadian loyalty and to come to the conclusion that we are more British than we are Canadian. Why should the so-called French Canadians have any sentimental ties with the United Kingdom? His attachment to the United Kingdom can be, and is, one of reason and logic. Neither is the French Canadian so terribly attached, even sentimentally, with France, (he does not want the *Fleur-de-lis*) but he is attached, and fervently so, to Canada.

We of the English-speaking tongue might well emulate him. I feel therefore that in proposing, and insisting upon a distinctive Canadian flag—without the union jack—I am striking a strong blow for unity in Canada, for then the French Canadians will realize that we too prefer Canada to any other country and that our loyalty is to Canada first. More than that, our great weakness in Canada is that we do not assimilate our immigrants. They remain English, Scotch, Irish, Ukrainian, German, Jap, Doukhobor, etc. Not so in the United States. The outstanding feature of the United States is the American power



of assimilation of their immigrants into their American nationality, and as Mr. Blanchette has already pointed out, this comes in no small part from the Stars and Stripes that stands in every classroom throughout the nation, and to which the youth, both immigrant and native, pay respect each morning. The Americans overseas have often asked if we Canadians would get our independence after the war. Well they figured that if we had the flag of Great Britain, her national anthem, the same kind of uniform for our fighting services, then, obviously, we must be but colonial auxiliaries. Let Canada then, for God's sake, cease her school-boy role, and having come of age, wear long pants, and speak and act as one having reached maturity. It is not that we love Great Britain less, but that we love Canada more. Surely after the wiping out of debts due us from the United Kingdom, after the stupendous gifts already granted, after the colossal loan just passed, surely, I say we do not need the union jack in our flag to signify our friendliness and loyalty to Great Britain. The Canadian will have a memento for many years, aye, decades, in the form of taxes, to remind him of his generosity to and friendship for the United Kingdom. As a means therefore, not only of unifying Canadians but also of assimilating immigrants, and generating in them loyalty to Canada, I deem a distinctive Canadian flag to be of paramount importance.

I appeal to you again, to adopt this design I am submitting because the desired objective will fail if our choice does not win united public support, and thus have the greatest unifying influence on future generations.

The CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, I think it is only fair to say at the beginning of this meeting that we have a definite motion on procedure before the committee and we have an amendment now which is rather general in its wording, but which if it passes would then be up for discussion in terms of ways and means of compromise. Before we proceed any further I would like to request that members confine their remarks to this question of whether you want to vote on these five flags again: because there were six of them that were dismissed by elimination, and the voters who supported these would naturally want to apply their votes to one of the others. You would still have the opportunity of getting up here at the next meeting or meetings and stating your views with respect to designs and their adoption, why you want a flag with the union jack on it, or why you want one without it. But I suggest to you that it is entirely out of order and impractical to have a discussion of that kind while this motion is before the meeting.

Mr. BEAUDOIN: If I understood correctly the remarks which were made a while ago it would appear to me that the action of the sub-committee was not competent because Senator Leger, a member of that committee did not receive a notice and was not present at the meeting.

Mr. HARRIS: One member was missing from that committee, because he did not receive a notice.

Mr. BEAUDOIN: I do not intend any reflection on any one and I am speaking now to the motion, the main motion I think. I would like to have cleared up the matter of the sufficiency of that report, and why one of the members representing the Senate did not attend the meeting of that sub-committee.

The CHAIRMAN: If Mr. Beaudoin listened to what was said about that meeting—

Mr. BEAUDOIN: I did.

The CHAIRMAN: --he would have observed that the point is that there was a quorum present.

Mr. BEAUDOIN: But I also heard the remark made by Senator Léger, that he did not know the subcommittee was sitting.

The CHAIRMAN: As I explained to the committee, the reason why he was not there; that verbal instructions had been given to acquaint him with the meeting, but through some oversight the message did not reach him, with the

result he was not present. However, as I have said, the representation of the Senate at the meeting of that subcommittee was adequate, and with the members from the House of Commons there was a quorum; so I think that Mr. Beaudoin's objection cannot be sustained because there was a quorum present, there was a legal meeting, a legitimate executive meeting of that subcommittee.

Mr. BEAUDOIN: I take exception to the remarks the Chairman has just made; unless all members of the committee have notice that it is going to sit, I think the report as coming from that subcommittee is premature.

The CHAIRMAN: It is a question of whether you are premature.

Mr. BEAUDOIN: That being so, I suggest that your remarks are uncalled for.

Mr. HARRIS: Mr. Chairman, I do not want to interrupt the proceedings of the committee in any way, but do recall that about two weeks ago we decided that we would proceed by a process of elimination to try to arrive at a decision in respect to the selection of a design. You will also recall that the committee as a whole objected to that, and chose another method of going about it. You will also recall that at our last meeting a discussion arose and it rather began to look as though we were going to get into difficulties about future procedure, and in your wisdom you chose a subcommittee to study the problem and bring in a report about it. I speak without any resentment whatever, but surely you will be guided by the advice that the steering committee gives you. That does not mean that you must follow it slavishly. But at the committee meeting to-day we had a discussion which lasted for one full hour, may I say, among other things; and we came to the conclusion to recommend the course we have to you. Mr. Blanchette was present. He stated his objection at that time; and it may be that had Senator Léger been present he might also have stated his objections. We have now recommended another step of the kind you have been taking in the past. The speech Senator Quinn has just made might, I suggest, more properly have been made to-morrow on the motion to eliminate the flag that he is sponsoring, provided it was one of those eliminated, but not otherwise. He does not know, nor do I know, what the result of the ballot will be. You see, we eliminated six flags for which members of the committee had voted. There is no way of telling how those members would support the five flags remaining; they might all very well vote for Senator Quinn's flag, and in that event it would not be anywhere near elimination. He does not know that until to-morrow. To end my remarks I want to say this. It is open to Senator Quinn to say anything he likes as his conclusion as to what the veterans of this war think about the flag, but with the greatest respect it is not open to you to say that I, serving in the armed forces, was a colonial.

Hon. Mr. HOWDEN: There seems to be a certain—

Hon. Mr. QUINN: Just a minute; on a point of order, Mr. Chairman, I made no such statement.

Mr. HARRIS: You said that persons serving in the same uniform were all colonials.

Hon. Mr. QUINN: No, I did not say that.

Mr. HARRIS: All right, you have explained it.

Hon. Mr. HOWDEN: I rather gathered from your remarks, Mr. Chairman, that the amendment was of a very awkward nature, shall I say, and whereas it was not out of order it was not going to get us very far. I should like to say in a very few words that the report of the committee simply means to continue the elimination. You say that we will have one more vote, but when you have got one more vote you are still swinging in the air. You have to go on and have one more vote and one more vote until you finally arrive at one flag by means of a ballot or vote.

In the matter of the consideration of this flag question all the way through it has been hoped that there would be a process of co-operation by which we



would arrive at a flag that was not the choice of either one branch of opinion or the other but was a compromise and would be accepted on the best possible terms. If you proceed by ballot you are not going to get anywhere near that because there is only one emblem that is accepted by this entire committee. That is the maple leaf. Apparently the maple leaf is the only emblem that is acceptable to all members of the committee of those which have so far been brought up. Personally all my sympathies, all my traditions and upbringing cause me to lean towards the union jack. I state that quite freely, but I do not believe for that very reason that it should be adopted point blank in the face of opposition without searching for a compromise if a compromise is possible. I do not think it matters very much on what sort of background you put your emblem as long as you have an emblem that is acceptable to everybody. There has only been one emblem, and that is the maple leaf.

When I made the motion which I did a few moments ago that we seek by some means to arrive at a compromise I really had that maple leaf in mind. Let the group choose whatever background it likes. Let it be red, white, green, yellow, black or blue, but let them have an emblem that is acceptable to all Canadians, and that is the maple leaf. That is the reason why I moved the amendment which I did that we proceed by compromise to try to arrive at a conclusion.

Mr. McIVOR: I may be a little dull in certain things but there is one thing that bothers me now. If one group says, "We must have the union jack"—and it was said very distinctly in the House—and that group will not support anything else but the union jack, and if there is somebody else says, "We will not have the union jack", and they will not support anything with the union jack on it from where is the compromise coming? As I look at it if we do not do anything the red ensign is flying over the House of Commons, and I do not expect that the red ensign is going to be taken down. Therefore, if we do not come to some clear conclusion on having a national flag for Canada it does look as though the national flag for Canada is going to be the red ensign.

The CHAIRMAN: Would you care to express your opinion on the motion and the amendment? Is there anyone else wishes to speak on it? Doctor Howden has moved an amendment that the selection of one of these flags be decided by compromise rather than by ballot. Mr. Gladstone's original motion is that one vote from each member be taken on the remaining five flags.

Mr. REID: Before you put the motion may I say a word with regard to the amendment? I think that most members of the committee might be very agreeable to a compromise when the time comes to compromise, but I am wondering what effect this amendment is going to have if it is voted down by this committee. The impression will go abroad that the committee is not willing to compromise. I am pointing that out to the committee. Dr. Howden's motion is to compromise, and if it is voted down it will be interpreted that we are not willing to compromise. We have not come to the point yet of whether or not we will compromise. I am prepared to vote against Dr. Howden's amendment but I do not want to be put on the spot that I am not prepared to discuss the matter of compromise. When the time comes for speeches I would remind Senator Quinn that we will have a lot to say about his speech.

Hon. Mr. QUINN: There are two sides to everything.

Mr. HARRIS: I take it that Senator Howden's motion means that we reject the recommendation and that we do not now take a ballot but that we study the means of arranging a flag with certain features on it that he wants, and so on. I have no doubt when the time comes, as Mr. Reid has said, and as I have said many times, it is possible that we may alter the details of any flag. I think that is what Senator Howden has in mind. I, too, would not like to be put in the position of saying to-day that I am not going to compromise on

any detail because no one in this place knows what I want on the flag yet. The time to discuss compromise will be on the motion to eliminate flags. That is, if as the result of this ballot it is found that any flag there has two or three supporters no doubt a motion will be made at the committee to eliminate it. Very well. Then Senator Howden may very well say, "But there is a feature in that flag that I think ought to be continued in our national flag when we choose it." That is the sort of thing which I am sure we will reach if we have one more ballot, but I do not think we will reach it to-day.

Mr. MacNICOL: May I ask who seconded the motion?

The CHAIRMAN: That does not matter.

Hon. Mr. STIRLING: I would rather like to raise a question as to whether the amendment is in order. The simple way to look at an amendment as I have always thought is, does it modify the motion without negating it? Under my impression the amendment is a negative of the motion for unless a vote is taken on the motion we shall not be in a position to arrive at any decision with regard to how a compromise might be arrived at.

The CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, I am of the opinion that strictly speaking the amendment is not in order.

Hon. Mr. HOWDEN: I am quite satisfied to have it considered out of order.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I thought we should let you talk about it anyway. The main reason though why I do not think it is in order is this.

Hon. Mr. HOWDEN: May I say that I do not want to embarrass this committee in the least, and if it is the wrong time to bring a motion of that kind, and if the motion is desirable later on, I will be glad to withdraw it for the time being.

The CHAIRMAN: The point on the amendment as to its character is that it lacks any sort of detailed suggestion as to how you are going to compromise or what course of compromise.

Hon. Mr. HOWDEN: I thought I made suggestions.

The CHAIRMAN: So that I thought if we could get this thing to a vote the thing would be taken care of logically, but rather than rule the amendment out of order if Dr. Howden is agreeable now to leave his suggestion of compromise until later why it will meet the situation.

Hon. Mr. HOWDEN: I will be glad to withdraw the amendment for the time being.

The CHAIRMAN: I will ask you then to express your views with regard to the motion. It is moved that a further vote be taken on the remaining five flags, one vote from each of our thirty-seven members. All in favour of the motion please signify? Nineteen. All opposed? I declare the motion carried. Now then between now and to-morrow noon—

Mr. LaCROIX: Why not another week?

The CHAIRMAN: I would ask you to express your selection in the same way as we have done in the past and put the name of each voter on the ballot.

Mr. LaCROIX: There are only five flags left. Do you not think it would be fair to give us more time?

Mr. HARRIS: You should have more time with 2,400 than with 5.

Mr. LaCROIX: I know, but there is a very serious step to be taken. We are running into the final phase of the competition right now, so why not give us another week, up to next Tuesday?

The CHAIRMAN: What is the opinion of the committee with regard to the time limit on this voting? There are five flags, and the question is whether or not there should be a longer time given for the committee to make its selection in the form of a ballot than till to-morrow, Wednesday, at 12 o'clock.



Hon. Mr. HOWDEN: I think we should proceed and take a ballot now because I believe that this Committee has made its mind up long ago.

Hon. Mr. QUINN: May I ask for your ruling on the suggestion I made, that is, as to rearranging of that flag with maple leaves and the Crown? Would the suggestion that I made of a design be considered as embodying the principle of that flag?

The CHAIRMAN: I think not. The reason for that decision is that in the subcommittee to-day a suggestion was made by one of the members to change the character of a flag in which he was particularly interested, with the approval of the author of it, and we were unanimously of the opinion that it would not be fair at this stage to alter the character of any flag. I think that the five flags as they stand there, the result of the eliminations which have already taken place, should be voted on as they stand. Then when we determine what we are going to do about it to-morrow we will have the results of the vote and you will be asked then for your advice and instructions as to what to do about eliminating the flags that have the least number of votes. An opportunity to discuss the whole thing again on that basis will arise. I think the main thing now is to try and get some sort of expression of opinion as to the selection that can be made from amongst these five flags.

Mr. MACNICOL: How will the flags be numbered now?

Mr. HARRIS: The numbers are still under them.

Mr. EMERSON: When we proceed with the vote and arrive at another stage to-morrow are we to again proceed with voting and elimination? In the other meetings we have had there have been suggestions from several that these flags should be displayed on a pole where we could see them and view them at a distance. Then we could see how they would compare from the point of view of being easily discernible and distinctive. Have we done away entirely with that idea of displaying those flags?

Mr. HARRIS: If the committee decides to cast a ballot between now and noon to-morrow and to meet again to-morrow afternoon at 4 or 5 o'clock I think that course would be a wise one because I am pretty sure some members of the committee wish to leave to-morrow night for the long week-end. At that time we would probably be faced with a result in which one or two of these flags would have two or three supporters. I am sure that the committee would feel that they should be consistent and count those out as they did the other day for a flag with two supporters. If to-morrow night we reach a conclusion and we have on the board only three or four then I think the suggestion about manufacturing designs and flying them will be adopted. I would recommend it as far as I am concerned. My co-chairman has been investigating this matter with the Federal District Commission and has located flag poles that are available. I am sure that suggestion will be carried out if we proceed with one more elimination to-morrow. Then what is left will be in the hands of the committee. As to the future you will note that the steering committee very carefully confined itself to one meeting as to what we should do, and from the sentiment that has been expressed I think they were very wise in not trying to forecast what should be done again. I suggest in the future that the steering committee will have to meet before each meeting and attempt to find the means of carrying on the business of the committee.

Mr. BEAUDOIN: Do I understand that the members will still be in order to forward to the clerk or to the chairman of this committee whatever new designs they may have in mind? I understand that now we are eliminating the flags that are on the board there. I just want to know, since it has always been declared in this committee that every member of the committee might later on have an opportunity to introduce his own design. I would like to know at what time it would be proper for the members of the committee to do so, and to whom such designs are to be submitted?

Mr. McCULLOCH: I do not believe there is anything to be gained by putting off this thing. I think we should pick out a flag tomorrow and meet tomorrow afternoon, even though it eliminate only one flag, for we would be that much nearer to a solution. So I move that we pick out our flags and meet tomorrow.

The CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, we have two motions, one being that the voting be proceeded with between now and tomorrow noon; and the other one being that there be longer time taken, that is, until next Tuesday. All those in favour of the amendment, that a period of a week should be given for the voting; all those in favour? Eight. All those opposed? I declare the amendment lost.

All those in favour of the motion of filing their votes between now and tomorrow noon on the five flags raise their hands? All those opposed? I declare the motion carried. Now we have a motion to adjourn?

Mr. BEAUDOIN: Before adjournment, I would like to have an answer to the question I put.

The CHAIRMAN: I beg your pardon. I would like to say, first of all, that I do not have any recollection of the suggestion being made that there would be new designs submitted in addition to those already submitted and subject to selection. But I would say, now, that you did mention the fact, that the final stages of the whole problem are still to be discussed, and that if any member wants to suggest additions to those flags that were named, it would be perfectly in order for him to do so.

Mr. BEAUDOIN: I would simply like to refresh your memory. I think the joint chairman would bear me out and Mr. Reid would bear me out as well, that while we were eliminating these flags, it was always understood that we were not bound by the flags on the board and that any member might still come along with suggestions of his own. I think that was quite clear right along.

The CHAIRMAN: We will check that up in the evidence.

Mr. HARRIS: Before we go any further, I want it to be distinctly understood that I never said, after Mr. Beaudoin's original motion, when we fixed a deadline of April 30th for new designs—I never said that any member could bring in a design of his own. I have said that when we choose a design, any member might suggest alterations or details in it.

Mr. BEAUDOIN: Well, that comes to the same thing.

Mr. HARRIS: When you get the choice, you may.

The CHAIRMAN: I declare the committee now adjourned to meet again at the call of the chair.

The committee adjourned at 5.50 p.m. to meet again at the call of the chair.



HOUSE OF COMMONS.

May 22, 1946.

The Joint Special Committee of the Senate and the House of Commons appointed to consider and report upon a suitable design for a distinctive national flag for Canada, met this day at 4.00 o'clock p.m. Mr. W. E. Harris (Chairman of the Commons section), presided.

The CHAIRMAN: If you will come to order, gentlemen, I will ask the clerk to give the results of the ballot.

The CLERK: The total committee membership is thirty-seven, and the total ballots cast number thirty-four. There were four ballots cast for No. 2; that is the design of the red and white with the green maple leaf. There were five ballots cast for No. 4; that is the crown with the three maple leaves. There were nineteen ballots cast for No. 5; that is the red ensign with the maple leaf. There were four ballots cast for No. 7, which is the design submitted by Mr. Holman; and there were two ballots cast for No. 8, which is the design submitted by Mr. Savage of Duncan, B.C.

The CHAIRMAN: May I have a motion then that we eliminate the one which had two supporters?

Mr. LACROIX: I would move it because I eliminate it with pleasure.

Hon. Mr. HOWDEN: I will be glad to so move.

The CHAIRMAN: It has been moved that we eliminate the design No. 8.

Mr. LACROIX: I thought you meant design No. 2.

The CHAIRMAN: No, the one that received only two votes; No. 8.

Mr. LACROIX: That is the one with the union jack in the corner.

The CHAIRMAN: That is the one numbered 8.

All in favour please indicate? Those opposed? I declare the motion carried.

Now, gentlemen, before we proceed to a discussion of our next step, I think I overlooked something some time ago in not putting in the record the orders in council dealing with the Canadian red ensign. I was reminded of it by the question asked by Mr. Beaudoin the other day as to its official status in this country, and I have a record here which I propose to have printed in our proceedings.

Very briefly I might indicate what they are. They begin with P.C. 1045, dated the 26th of July, 1892, authorizing its use and setting out its proportions and so on. The next step is P.C. 843, dated the 25th of April, 1922, which authorizes the flying of the Canadian red ensign with the new coat of arms on it. The next is P.C. 134, of the 26th of January, 1924, which authorizes the use of the Canadian red ensign. I had better read this:—

The Prime Minister therefore, recommends, without contemplating any variation from the present practice regulating the flying of flags from the government buildings within the Dominion of Canada, and assuming that no local regulation would be violated thereby, that the requisite authority be given for displaying the Red Ensign with the Canadian Arms in the fly, on suitable occasions from all buildings owned or occupied by the Canadian government, and situated without Canada.

The next is the order in council passed on the opening day of the session of 1945 which authorized its use in Canada, and I quote part of the order reading as follows:—

His Excellency

The Governor General in Council:

Whereas the Right Honourable W. L. Mackenzie King, the Prime Minister, reports that by order in council P.C. 134 of January 26, 1924, authority is given for displaying the Red Ensign with the Shield of the coat of arms of Canada in the fly (commonly known as "the Canadian Red Ensign") on suitable occasions from all buildings owned or occupied by the Canadian government and situated without Canada;

That the Canadian Red Ensign was employed by the Canadian forces during the present war; and

That, until such time as action is taken by parliament for the formal adoption of a national flag, it is desirable to authorize the flying of the Canadian Red Ensign on federal government buildings within as well as without Canada, and to remove any doubt as to the propriety of flying the Canadian Red Ensign wherever place or occasion may make it desirable to fly a distinctive Canadian flag;

Therefore His Excellency the Governor General in Council, on the recommendation of the Prime Minister, is pleased to order and doth hereby order that the Red Ensign with the shield of the coat of arms of Canada in the fly (hereinafter referred to as "the Canadian Red Ensign") may be flown from buildings owned or occupied by the federal government within and without Canada;

His Excellency in Council, on the same recommendation, is further pleased to declare and doth hereby declare that it shall be appropriate to fly the Canadian Red Ensign within and without Canada wherever place or occasion may make it desirable to fly a distinctive Canadian flag.

Nothing herein shall be deemed to alter in any way the provisions now in force with respect to the flying of the Blue Ensign with the shield of the coat of arms of Canada in the fly on Canadian naval vessels and other government vessels, nor within respect to the flying of the Canadian Red Ensign on Canadian merchant vessels.

Then it was flown during the war by the armed forces on Canadian army routine orders dated the 22nd January, 1944, and was authorized for use by the Canadian forces serving with other armies.

There was also an air force routine order dated the 10th of November, 1943, with respect to flying the flag in the air force.

Those are the details which you wanted.

Mr. MacNICOL: What was that last order?

The CHAIRMAN: Air force order No. 2041, in 1943.

Does anybody want to ask any questions about these orders in council?

(Orders in council referred to appear as Appendix "A".)

Hon. Mr. QUINN: Mr. Chairman, before proceeding any further on that point, I want to refer to the evidence of yesterday. After I addressed the committee you took exception to a statement attributed to me classifying our troops overseas as colonial. This I promptly denied. In looking over the notes which I read, and which I shall quote to clarify this, I find that I said:—

The Americans overseas have often asked if we Canadians would get our independence after the war. Well they figured that if we had the flag of Great Britain, her national anthem, the same kind of uniform for our fighting services, then, obviously, we must be but colonial auxiliaries.

The CHAIRMAN: I think Senator Quinn has quoted the record exactly as it was. I may have been slightly hasty in assuming that he was giving approval to what the Americans thought. I entirely withdraw any suggestion that he expressed the opinion himself that I was a colonial.



Hon. Mr. QUINN: I would hardly make that statement with my own two sons being concerned.

The CHAIRMAN: I realize that, Senator.

Have you any questions about the orders in council. Let us get that settled first. Does anybody want to inquire about the orders in council I have read to you before we proceed?

Mr. BEAUDOIN: I suppose that the members may use the privilege of making such comments as they like. As far as I am concerned I would like first to read the record and study the orders in council before I offer any comment.

The CHAIRMAN: Very good. Gentlemen, the situation now is that we have remaining these four designs. I am going to ask the clerk to take down that No. 8 design which received only two votes.

Mr. BEAUDOIN: While the flag is being taken down, may I point out that the only apparent differentiation between that and the red ensign was the background. I would like to point out at this stage that white is a very important colour. May I refer to Mr. Blanchette's words in which he called attention to the fact that white has always been considered specifically as being the colour of the French; it has always been recognized as expressing the virtues and the loyalties of the French people. I discovered only lately that this particular design, the winning design in a National campaign organized by the *La Presse* newspaper in 1925, this produced by Mr. Edwin Tappan Adney of Upper Woodstock, N.B., Canada. I speak of the one which has just been taken down. According to him this design submitted through the *La Presse* contest was absolutely correct, so far as heraldy is concerned. The only thing I want to point out at this date—am I right in bringing this up now, Mr. Chairman?

The CHAIRMAN: Yes.

Mr. BEAUDOIN: And am I right in assuming that later on, at some future meeting, motions will be entertained by which it will be up to us to suggest that the red ensign might contain some white?

The CHAIRMAN: You are quite in order to do that. I had thought I had made that clear at practically every meeting while I was in the chair; that when this committee reaches the stage of selecting a particular design, such a motion can be entertained. What I mean by that is that there must be sufficient distinguishing features to make it adequate as a flag. At that stage any member of the committee may move that a particular feature may be taken out of that flag, or one put in. I would not hesitate at all in allowing a motion to come in at a later stage that some white go on the choice of the committee, if there does not happen to be white on the design selected at that time. I would like to add a word of explanation in connection with that, and it is this. One of the members of this committee asked me if he could ballot on this particular ballot for the red ensign but with a crown in the corner instead of a union jack.

Mr. MacNICOL: That would not be the red ensign.

The CHAIRMAN: My answer to him was this, that since there was not a flag of that kind for him to ballot on it might be difficult to know what to do with his ballot; but that if we came down to a choice of flag No. 5, it would be quite in order to move that the crown be substituted for the union jack in the corner. That is exactly what Mr. Beaudoin has in mind, that he would possibly move that some white go on the flag in some place. I have said that so often now that I had thought I had made it clear, but I think we had better clear it up now. It was my hope that we would get down eventually to one or two flags. At that time any member of the committee might express his opinion as to the component parts of that flag, by motions or otherwise as he may choose. Then quite naturally we could get down to the choice of a final design. I hope I have made that clear now.

Mr. BEAUDOIN: If you will refer to page 46 of Minutes of Proceedings No. 2, you will find that Mr. Reid said:—

I wish to draw to the attention of the committee that this committee is not allowing any display to run the committee; they are simply a guide to us.

And then on page 47, after discussion had taken place on that particular point, Mr. Castleden said this:—

Mr. CASTLEDEN: That does not exclude the making of another design by the committee?

And then the chairman said:—

The CHAIRMAN: Oh, no, not at all. I do not think anybody ever suggested that. But I think we must get a very definite point on which we can agree in the number that we are going to select from. That is all. These 76 flags constitute the range of selection satisfactory to this committee; let us go on from there.

You said that you wanted to make the situation clear on that point. As I understand it at the moment, the committee will have the right to move modifications in the design of the red ensign, or whatever design might be the final choice of the committee. But I would emphasize this, that Mr. Castleden put a question:—

That does not exclude the making of another design by the committee?

And to that the chairman replied:—

Oh, no, not at all.

I want to get an explanation of that.

The CHAIRMAN: I thought I had made that clear. If the committee decides that No. 5 should not have the maple leaf on it, or that it should have a white background, or that it should have a crown in the corner, surely that is making a new design, if it carries in committee. But I am trying to keep it down to limiting the possibilities of opening up this thing with a flag that we have not even seen before.

Mr. BLANCHETTE: In other words, Mr. Chairman, the suggestion which you have just made could have been made at a future meeting, and still leave the matter open?

The CHAIRMAN: Definitely; there is no question about it.

Hon. Mr. ROBINSON: Mr. Chairman, I had intended bringing a matter up before the committee today but I deferred doing so until after the vote had been taken. The point I had in mind to take up was the question of publicity with respect to our selections. For some time the committee had before them Lieutenant Commander Beddoe, and it has come to my attention that he has issued a statement criticizing the flags that we have under consideration. I refrained from bringing this matter up yesterday because had I done so it would have been almost necessary for me to have referred to a letter which I had from Mr. Holman; otherwise what I am going to say would have been more or less without point. My point is this. Mr. Beddoe was assisting the clerk, Mr. Chassé, and he made some criticism of designs. I had a lengthy telegram two days ago which I could not understand at all. It asked me questions to which I did not know the answers, and I could not really understand the situation. However, I replied to Mr. Holman and informed him that I thought the press despatches he had read must have been misleading; I had heard all the remarks made by Mr. Beaudoin and I thought that there had been nothing said that could be considered as a criticism. He gave a very lengthy and well expressed



discourse. He quoted men whom he considered as experts, but at no time did he say anything that was in any way detrimental.

However, a day or so later I was reading the *Guardian* newspaper and I noticed this in an editorial.

Mr. Alan Beddoe, Ottawa artist, has a great deal to say by way of criticism of the Holman flag design, but what it actually amounts to is that in certain particulars, the design is contrary to the science of heraldry. Surely the decision of the flag committee is not to be governed by rules affecting family pedigrees, as in the case of armorial bearings.

Naturally I was a little disturbed, and I at once searched the previous day's paper. I found a despatch of some length which was a special report to the *Guardian* newspaper and had been published on the 14th of May. I will not read it all. I will give you one or two quotations.

Alan Beddoe, prominent Ottawa artist who will probably be called before the Senate-House of Commons flag committee as an expert this week, told the *Guardian's* Ottawa correspondent to-day that the flag design submitted to the committee by J. Leroy Holman of Summerside is heraldically wrong and fails to conform to legal, visual and constitutional requirements.

He added he would be forced to recommend the rejection of Mr. Holman's design.

Without reading the despatch in full, you are all acquainted perhaps with this man by name. I know I was not, but I always considered him to be a gentleman who was here helping in every way he could. He worked for a month or more helping Mr. Chasse to arrange the designs, but I do take exception—and I think you will all agree with me—that he was certainly out of place when he presumed to give the press a report, or make it possible for such a report to appear in the newspaper.

I am merely stating that this is the report and it is credited to him. I am not sure it is just as he said it, but he apparently considered himself to be a prominent artist and expert on heraldry. He goes out of his way to discuss Mr. Holman's flag.

We have had instances of that here in parliament from time to time. The reason I am bringing it before the committee is that I think his action was certainly very ill advised and it would be ill advised on the part of any civil servant who was quite conversant with the proceedings to go out of his way to express his opinion before he was asked to do so by the committee.

He is, as you might say, an employee of the committee, and I think I am justified therefore in bringing this complaint to your attention. What made it a little more difficult for me was that I had about the same time or a few days previously written Mr. Holman and informed him of a conversation I had had with an hon. member of this committee who had offered some criticism. I had told him that I would be very pleased to have him submit or suggest any changes that he would like to have made in the Holman flag. I was quite sure that Mr. Holman would approve of my action in doing so, and I wrote Mr. Holman and told him. He naturally was interested in what I had said and at once replied to me informally. I could read it but it is not necessary. I will read one or two lines.

Before promoting my design you asked me if I would be willing to make any changes in it that the committee might favour. I replied in the affirmative for the reason that I was more interested in helping the committee to find a flag that would have the most unifying influence on future generations than that the particular flag that I had designed should be held to any exactness.

Without going into all this letter Mr. Holman's desire has been to compromise, and that is in accordance with my wishes. If any change should be made in his flag he would be only too pleased to concur, and has given me full authority to make any suggestions for any new flag that might be desired.

As a result of that he had two new designs prepared. I did not mention this yesterday but I realized that in making a complaint about Mr. Beddoo's remarks I was pretty nearly called upon to give some explanation because it would have almost looked as if the change had been made as a result of Mr. Beddoo's criticism. Actually I have the letter here which was written on the 11th of May by me to Mr. Holman. I am willing now or at any future time when you, Mr. Chairman, may consider it desirable, to place before you the revised designs of Mr. Holman's flag. I have also read that one paragraph of his letter indicating that he is much more interested in helping the committee to arrive at a decision for a new national flag for Canada than to have his own flag accepted in exactness.

I think that is about all I wish to say. I thought this might be an opportune time to bring it before the committee. In the first place I think the action of Commander Beddoo was very ill advised and should not have occurred here or in any other department. It has received considerable publicity, and I think it is somewhat out of place.

Mr. MACNICOL: Would you mind telling the committee what it was that Commander Beddoo found fault with?

Hon. Mr. ROBINSON: I will read it all if you like. It is really the stripes that Commander Beddoo was referring to in the flag as well as from a heraldic point of view. He considered that the band that surrounds the red border was wrong from a heraldic point of view, and that only a junior of a household or a cadet of a household should wear a border but on the other hand I have been advised that in the Encyclopedia Britannica on a certain page in the 11th edition it is pointed out that kings have had banners with borders.

Mr. MACNICOL: With what?

Hon. Mr. ROBINSON: Borders. Just as the editorial says I do not feel that we should give all the consideration to family pedigrees and armorial bearings. I am quite in accord with the view that we should listen to experts when the time comes, but we have not arrived at that time. I think Commander Beddoo was very much out of place in making any special effort to present his views and have them published. I should like to file this report in full with you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. MACNICOL: I do not yet see what it was that was sent out from here. Of the 2,409 flags submitted only 8 of the whole 2,409 had diagonal bars.

Hon. Mr. ROBINSON: That may be one of the reasons why Mr. Holman changed it. I well remember the remark that was made that only one of the 2,400 had diagonal bars.

Mr. MACNICOL: No, there were 8 out of 2,409 flags had diagonal bars, and 42 had horizontal bars.

Hon. Mr. ROBINSON: I well remember your remarks when you said that this should go out and that should go out in your estimation.

Mr. MACNICOL: Was he quoting my remarks?

Hon. Mr. ROBINSON: No, I am saying that when you were discussing the designs on the flags you did not give any consideration to the few that had diagonal bars. You gave the most consideration—and I think you were justified in doing so—to the maple leaf. The maple leaf was the most popular design of all the flags we had before us. I have not got the exact remarks.

Mr. MACNICOL: I examined them all very carefully. Of the whole 2,409—and I may have made a mistake—8 of the flags had diagonal bars, 11 had



perpendicular bars and 42 had horizontal bars. I did say at the time that would convince me that bars of any description were not very popular in Canada.

Hon. Mr. ROBINSON: I am not misquoting you. I am taking exactly what you say.

Hon. Mr. HOWDEN: If motions are in order I would move that this committee proceed to reduce further the number of these flags by elimination.

The CHAIRMAN: I do not want to offend by not taking the motion immediately, but I should like to clear up Senator Robinson's point of privilege if you do not mind. The position of Commander Beddoe in this committee is that he came here at the request of your chairman to the Department of National Defence to find someone who had experience in these things and could assist during the winter months when parliament was not sitting in indexing and classifying these flags as they were received, and ultimately having them put on the boards, although most of that work was done by Mr. Chasse. In other words, he carried out the plan with some modifications that Colonel Duguid suggested as the only feasible way of getting these flags before the committee. We have never sought his advice in his capacity as an expert in heraldry nor has he offered it. Therefore I feel that if he spoke on that subject to a newspaper after all that is his decision which unfortunately was made at a time when someone might connect him with the proceedings of the committee. I think Senator Robinson's point is properly taken that this was unfortunate, but I think that the committee would want to let the matter drop and not discuss it further.

Mr. SMITH: May I ask one question? I do not know Commander Beddoe but may I ask was his objection to the flag because of these diagonal bars?

Hon. Mr. ROBINSON: That is one of the objections.

Mr. SMITH: Was the reason for that because it is the bar sinister?

Hon. Mr. ROBINSON: Yes.

Mr. SMITH: That is the sign of bastardy. Surely we do not want it on the flag.

Hon. Mr. ROBINSON: The point I am raising is that I think when we want advice we should ask for it. As far as this flag is concerned it had four bars. It is not just one bar. Naturally Mr. Holman, who is not an expert on heraldry, would like to have his child legitimate. He has always indicated that he is very anxious to make changes. If this gentleman had come before the committee when asked and had given advice such as you have mentioned then it would be quite all right to try to overcome his objection. I am objecting to the procedure of any person seeking the public press to obtain his objective of criticizing any flag that might be before us.

The CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, there is a motion before us.

Mr. SMITH: It saved us from making fools of ourselves.

Hon. Mr. ROBINSON: It was always the intention to bring him. I am no more an expert than you are.

The CHAIRMAN: We have a motion from Senator Howden. I would appreciate it if you would write it out so I can read it. Would you write your motion out and let me have it?

Hon. Mr. HOWDEN: My motion was that the committee now proceed to reduce further the number of flags by the process of elimination as has been done before. I understand that there is a desire on the part of certain members of the committee not to press the matter of elimination with haste, and I am willing to withdraw my motion. I do not want to embarrass the committee at all.

The CHAIRMAN: Then we are back to where we were before the question of privilege arose. We have eliminated one flag to-day. It is up to the committee to decide on its next step or whether it will employ the services of the steering

committee which has been rather roughly handled by the committee at different times in the past.

Mr. LACROIX: I move that we adjourn.

The CHAIRMAN: I regret to say that the chairman is still on his feet and will not accept the motion until he finishes. The committee has that choice before it, to either debate here the next procedure, proceed by another ballot or by motions now, such as we had formerly, or refer the matter to the steering committee. I think those three choices are open to you. There may be others that I have not thought of. However, I think we should decide on one or other of the three today and meet again next week to carry that out.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Chairman—

Mr. WARREN: I move we have another vote.

The CHAIRMAN: I believe Mr. Smith was on his feet. I did not hear what he said.

Mr. SMITH: I am going to move that it be referred to the steering committee. I think that we make progress in that manner. Until we fail to do so, I should like to see that procedure carried on.

The CHAIRMAN: You have heard the motion that the steering committee consider this. What is your pleasure, gentlemen?

Mr. WARREN: Mr. Chairman, I move as an amendment that we have another vote.

The CHAIRMAN: When?

Mr. WARREN: Tomorrow.

Mr. LACROIX: I move the adjournment of the committee until the next meeting. As an amendment I move the adjournment of the committee.

The CHAIRMAN: The motion to adjourn cannot be made by way of an amendment to any other motion.

Mr. LACROIX: That is all right.

The CHAIRMAN: Would you add to that motion the date; for next week, or something like that?

Mr. WARREN: What is the matter with having it tomorrow?

The CHAIRMAN: A lot of the members are going home tonight.

Mr. WARREN: All right.

The CHAIRMAN: I have a motion that the matter be referred to the steering committee. We have by way of an amendment a motion that we take another ballot between now and some date next week. Is there any discussion on the motion?

Mr. LACROIX: What will be referred to the steering committee, just to decide procedure?

The CHAIRMAN: Right. Is there any discussion on the amendment? All in favour of the amendment?

(Amendment negatived.)

The CHAIRMAN: I declare the amendment lost. The motion is that we refer the matter to the steering committee. All in favour of the motion?

Mr. MACNICOL: What matter?

The CHAIRMAN: The procedure to be adopted in the future. All in favour of the motion?

(Motion agreed to.)

The CHAIRMAN: Do you want to move the adjournment of the committee, Mr. LACROIX?

Mr. LACROIX: Yes, until next Tuesday.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: All in favour?



Mr. LACROIX: Next Tuesday.

The CHAIRMAN: It will have to be at the call of the chair, when we get a report from the steering committee. It will not be before next Tuesday.

(Motion agreed to.)

The committee adjourned at 4.45 o'clock p.m. to meet again at the call of the chair.

## APPENDIX "A"

P.C. 1045

*Certified to be a true copy of a Minute of a Meeting of the Committee of the Privy Council, approved by His Excellency the Governor General on the 26th July, 1892.*

The Committee of the Privy Council have had under consideration a Despatch, hereto attached, dated 11th February, 1892, forwarding Admiralty Circular respecting the defacement of the Red Ensign, and also the very full and courteous advisory letter which accompanied the Circular in question.

The Minister of Marine and Fisheries to whom the Despatch was referred states that the adoption of the Canadian Shield in the Red Ensign, has already become so general that to order its abolition would excite much opposition, and involve on smaller vessels a measurable item of expense.

The Minister, with a desire to meet the views of their Lordships, recommends (1st) The Shield for the Red Ensign shall be printed, stamped or worked on a red ground. (2nd) The area of the Shield, shall in no case exceed one fourth the area of the Union Jack of the particular Ensign. (3rd) The same proportion shall be maintained in regard to the Shield of the Blue Ensign, but it shall be printed, stamped or worked on a white ground. (4th) The Shield shall be placed centrally in that part of the Flag which is beyond the Jack.

The Minister forwards herewith a coloured print together with a sample of the present flag, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty.

The Committee concurring in the above advise that Your Excellency be moved to forward a copy hereof to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

All of which is respectfully submitted for Your Excellency's approval.

*Clerk of the Privy Council.*

By the Commissioners for executing the  
Office of Lord High Admiral of the  
United Kingdom of Great Britain and  
Ireland

Whereas we deem it expedient that Canadian registered vessels shall be permitted to wear the Red Ensign of Her Majesty's Fleet with the Canadian Coat of Arms on the Fly thereof.

We do therefore by virtue of the power and authority vested in us hereby warrant and authorize the Red Ensign of Her Majesty's Fleet with the Canadian Coat of Arms on the Fly, to be used on board vessels registered in the Dominion.

Given under our hands and the Seal of the office of Admiralty this second day of February, 1892.

By command of Their Lordships.

(signed) EVAN MACGREGOR.



## P.C. 843

*Certified to be a true copy of a Minute of a Meeting of the Committee of the Privy Council, approved by His Excellency the Governor General on the 26th April, 1922.*

The Committee of the Privy Council have had before them a report, dated 10th April, 1922, from the Minister of the Naval Services, submitting that by Admiralty Warrant of the 2nd February, 1892, the Red Ensign defaced by the Shield of the Canadian Coat of Arms in the fly was authorized for Canadian registered vessels, and further that under memorandum of agreement of 1911, between the British Admiralty and the Canadian Government, ships of the Royal Canadian Navy are authorized to fly at the Jack Staff the Blue Ensign (with the Arms of the Dominion of Canada in the Fly). Under King's Regulations and Admiralty Instruction, Article 123, the Blue Ensign defaced by the Shield of the Canadian Coat of Arms has also been adopted as the Official Flag for vessels in the Canadian Government Service.

The Minister further submits that by proclamation of His Majesty, dated the 21st November, 1921, which proclamation has been published in the *Canada Gazette*, of the 17th December, 1921, a new Coat of Arms has been authorized for the Dominion of Canada.

The Minister, with the concurrence of the Minister of Marine and Fisheries, therefore recommends that from this date the Shield of the new Canadian Coat of Arms replace the Shield at present in use on the Canadian Red Ensign and on the defaced Blue Ensign in official use in Canada.

The Minister further recommends that the use of flags bearing the old Shield be permitted up to the 31st March, 1924.

The Committee concur in the foregoing recommendations and submit the same for approval.

*Clerk of the Privy Council.*

## P.C. 134

*Certified copy of a Minute of a Meeting of the Committee of the Council, approved by His Excellency the Governor General on the 26th January, 1924.*

The Committee of the Privy Council have had before them a Report, dated 23rd January, 1924, from the Right Honourable W. L. Mackenzie King, Prime Minister and Secretary of State for External Affairs, submitting that he has recently had his attention drawn to the practice which prevails of flying the Blue Ensign with the Canadian Arms in the fly over the offices of the High Commissioner for Canada in London. This flag was authorized by a despatch from the Secretary of State for the Colonies dated 16th July, 1870, to be flown by Canadian Government vessels, and its use on land in the heart of London is manifestly irregular. The reason offered for this variation from the Union Jack, which is flown over all Canadian Government buildings in Canada, is to be found in the need very generally felt by Canadians in London for a distinctive emblem which will afford a ready means of distinguishing the character of the buildings over which it floats, and the portion of the Empire to which they belong.

The Prime Minister considers that this purpose would be served by the employment in this connection of the Red Ensign with the Canadian Arms in the fly, which, though originally authorized by the Admiralty to be flown over vessels of the Canadian Mercantile Marine, has come to serve a wider application, having been displayed in times past from the Government buildings in Ottawa, and quite generally throughout the country, where it is still often spoken of as the "Canadian Flag", meaning thereby, the distinctive emblem of Canada.

The Prime Minister therefore, recommends, without contemplating any variation from the present practice regulating the flying of flags from the Government buildings within the Dominion of Canada, and assuming that no local regulation would be violated thereby, that the requisite authority be given for displaying the Red Ensign with the Canadian Arms in the fly, on suitable occasions from all buildings owned or occupied by the Canadian Government, and situated without Canada.

The Committee concur in the foregoing and submit the same for Your Excellency's approval.

E. J. LEMAIRE,  
*Clerk of the Privy Council.*

*Extract from Hansard, 1 October 1945, Page 618*

Mr. ILSLEY.

1. The red ensign is being flown from the Tower of the houses of parliament under authority of order in council P.C. 5888 passed on September 5, 1945, copy of which appears below.

3. The red ensign flew from the tower on the houses of parliament from the days of confederation until 1904.

#### AT THE GOVERNMENT HOUSE AT OTTAWA

WEDNESDAY, the 5th day of September 1945.

PRESENT:

HIS EXCELLENCY

THE GOVERNOR GENERAL IN COUNCIL:

Whereas the Right Honourable W. L. Mackenzie King, the Prime Minister, reports that by order in council P.C. 134 of January 26, 1924 authority is given for displaying the Red Ensign with the Shield of the coat of arms of Canada in the fly (commonly known as "the Canadian Red Ensign") on suitable occasions from all buildings owned or occupied by the Canadian government and situated without Canada:

That the Canadian Red Ensign was employed by the Canadian forces during the present war; and

That, until such time as action is taken by parliament for the formal adoption of a national flag, it is desirable to authorize the flying of the Canadian Red Ensign on federal government buildings within as well as without Canada, and to remove any doubt as to the propriety of flying the Canadian Red Ensign wherever place or occasion may make it desirable to fly a distinctive Canadian flag;

Therefore His Excellency the Governor General in Council, on the recommendation of the Prime Minister, is pleased to order and doth hereby order that the Red Ensign with the shield of the coat of arms of Canada in the fly (here-



inafter referred to as "the Canadian Red Ensign") may be flown from buildings owned or occupied by the federal government within and without Canada;

His Excellency in council, on the same recommendation, is further pleased to declare and doth hereby declare that it shall be appropriate to fly the Canadian Red Ensign within and without Canada wherever place or occasion may make it desirable to fly a distinctive Canadian flag.

Nothing herein shall be deemed to alter in any way the provisions now in force with respect to the flying of the Blue Ensign with the shield of the coat of arms of Canada in the fly on Canadian naval vessels and other government vessels, nor with respect to the flying of the Canadian Red Ensign on Canadian Merchant vessels.

A. D. P. HEENEY

*Clerk of the Privy Council.*

#### CANADIAN ARMY ROUTINE ORDERS

No. 4021 d/22 Jan 44.

##### FLYING OF FLAGS AT CANADIAN ARMY STATIONS

The Canadian Red Ensign with the Shield of the Coat of Arms of Canada in the fly is to be flown at all units of the Canadian Army serving with forces of other nations.

(H.Q. 50-1-13)

#### AIR FORCE ROUTINE ORDER No. 2401 DATED 10 NOV 43.

##### 2401. FLYING OF FLAGS AT R.C.A.F. STATIONS.

1. The Canadian red ensign with a shield of the Coat-of-Arms of Canada in the fly is to be flown in addition to the R.C.A.F. Ensign at all units of the R.C.A.F. serving with forces of other nations.

2. A.F.A.O. A.9-1 will be amended.

3. Commanding Officers are to ensure that the provisions of this order are carried out.





SESSION 1946



JOINT COMMITTEE OF THE SENATE AND  
THE HOUSE OF COMMONS

Appointed to Consider and Report Upon  
a Suitable Design for a Distinctive

NATIONAL FLAG  
FOR CANADA

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MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AND EVIDENCE

No. 5

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TUESDAY MAY, 28, 1946  
WEDNESDAY MAY, 29, 1946

OTTAWA  
EDMOND CLOUTIER  
PRINTER TO THE KING'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY  
1946

ADDITIONAL ORDER OF REFERENCE OF SENATE

WEDNESDAY, May 29, 1946.

Ordered, That the name of the Honourable Senator Paterson be substituted for that of the Honourable Senator Davies on the Senate section of the Joint Committee appointed to consider and report upon a suitable design for a distinctive National Flag.

ATTEST.

L. C. MOYER  
*Clerk of Senate.*



## MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

HOUSE OF COMMONS,

Room 429,

TUESDAY, May 28, 1946.

The Joint Committee of the Senate and the House of Commons, appointed to consider and report upon a suitable design for a distinctive national flag for Canada, met this day at 4 o'clock p.m. Honourable Senator N. P. Lambert, Chairman of the Senate section, presided.

*Members present:* The Senate: Honourable Senators Aseltine, Gershaw, Gouin, Howden, Johnston, Lambert, Leger, Quinn, Robinson and White. The House of Commons: Messrs: Beaudoin, Blanchette, Castleden, Emmerson, Gingues, Gladstone, Hansell, Harris (*Grey-Bruce*), LaCroix, Lafontaine, Macdonnell, (*Muskoka-Ontario*), MacNicol, Matthews (*Brandon*), McCulloch (*Pictou*), McIvor, Reid, Smith (*Calgary West*), Stanfield, Stirling, Thatcher, Warren and Zaplitny.

The Chairman called upon the Joint Chairman, Mr. W. E. Harris, to report from the subcommittee meeting held at 2.00 p.m. this date.

Mr. Harris stated that the subcommittee recommended that balloting be continued until two designs remained.

Senator Howden moved the adoption of the said subcommittee report. The question being put, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Mr. J. F. Pouliot, M.P., requested permission to address the Committee. The Chairman informed Mr. Pouliot that it was inopportune for him to speak at this meeting but suggested that he be heard at the next meeting. Mr. Pouliot thanked the Committee and withdrew.

Mr. Harris tabled a resolution forwarded by the City Council of Quebec City.

The Chairman asked the Clerk to distribute the ballots and collect them after they were marked.

The Clerk announced the result as follows—design No. 2—10; No. 4—1; No. 5—18; and No. 7—3. Total number of ballots cast, thirty-two (32).

On motion of Senator Howden, designs numbers four and seven were eliminated.

On motion of Mr. Harris, it was

*Resolved*—That the Committee adjourn and that the subcommittee report to the main Committee at the next meeting.

At 4.40 o'clock p.m., the Committee adjourned to meet again at the call of the Chair.

HOUSE OF COMMONS, ROOM 429.

WEDNESDAY, May 29, 1946.

The Joint Committee of the Senate and the House of Commons appointed to consider and report upon a suitable design for a distinctive national flag for Canada, met this day at 4 o'clock p.m. Mr. W. E. Harris, Chairman of the House of Commons section, presided.

*Members present:* The Senate Honourable Senators Aseltine, David, Gershaw, Gouin, Howden, Johnston, Lambert, Leger, Paterson, Quinn, Robinson and White. The House of Commons: Messrs. Blanchette, Castleden, Emmer-son, Gingues, Gladstone, Hainsell, Harris (*Grey-Bruce*), LaCroix, Lafontaine, Macdonnell (*Muskoka-Ontario*), MacNicol, Matthews (*Brandon*), McCulloch (*Pictou*), Reid, Smith (*Calgary-West*), Stanfield, Stirling, Zaplitny.

The Chairman invited the Joint-Chairman (Senator Lambert) to present a report from the subcommittee meeting held at 4.45 p.m. this date.

Senator Lambert stated that the subcommittee recommended for the consideration of the committee the following resolution,—

That a subcommittee be appointed to which the two remaining flags be referred and that the subcommittee be directed to make suggestions that will go as far as possible towards reconciling the conflicting views expressed in the committee and towards working out a design which will be generally acceptable to the committee.

On the motion of Senator Howden the above resolution was adopted.

On the motion of Mr. Reid it was resolved,—

That the amount of \$9.72 charged by S. S. Holden Limited Ottawa, for the preparation of two flags be approved.

Mr. J. F. Pouliot M.P. asked leave to address the committee. Permission was granted and Mr. Pouliot delivered a short address.

Senator Aseltine moved the adjournment of the committee.

The Committee adjourned at 5.40 p.m. to meet again at the call of the Chair.

F. J. CORCORAN,  
*Clerk of Joint Committee.*



## MINUTES OF EVIDENCE

HOUSE OF COMMONS,

May 28, 1946.

The Joint Special Committee of the Senate and the House of Commons appointed to consider and report upon a suitable design for a distinctive national flag for Canada, met this day at 4 o'clock p.m. Hon. Mr. N. P. Lambert (Chairman of the Senate section of the Joint Committee), presided.

The CHAIRMAN: I will ask Mr. Harris to report for the subcommittee which met this morning.

Mr. HARRIS: Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, the subcommittee met again and came to the same conclusion that they did a week ago, namely that we should proceed by balloting. There was considerable discussion as to the ultimate outcome of our proceedings and how it could be effected when that time came. But the committee decided that so long as there were four flags in the running, we should proceed to another ballot and another elimination. It was the opinion of the committee, I think, or of most of the members, although there were others present who disagreed, that we should do that until we had two flags. At that point there should be a change in the procedure, but so long as we had more than two, it was the opinion that we should proceed to eliminate them by balloting.

Mr. POUЛИOT: Mr. Chairman, would I be allowed to make a short statement to the committee?

The CHAIRMAN: Mr. Pouliot spoke to the chairman and my fellow chairman, Mr. Harris, when he came into the committee, asking whether or not he would be permitted to make a statement.

Mr. McIVOR: A short statement?

The CHAIRMAN: Our reaction was that we did not like to create a precedent which might result in a good many members outside of this committee coming in here to make statements. On further thought I came to the conclusion that it might be advisable to ask the committee whether or not they desire to hear Mr. Pouliot at this time. We have one or two details of business in addition to the decision upon the next step of procedure. I do not wish to delay the proceedings of the committee unduly so, without entering into a long discussion of the matter, I should like to know in a general way whether or not the committee would like to hear what Mr. Pouliot has to say, without prejudice or in any way creating any foundation for further precedent of that sort.

Hon. Mr. STIRLING: Mr. Chairman, I think that puts us in a rather invidious position. I shall vote against the proposition, but I should not like that to convey to those present that I am voting against the statement that Mr. Pouliot has offered to make. I vote against it because I think that it would cause quite an unnecessary delay if we have any extraneous statements other than from members of the committee.

Mr. LACROIX: Mr. Chairman, I move that we hear Mr. Pouliot. I do not agree with Mr. Stirling as far as delay is concerned. We have been waiting for 75 years for a flag and I do not think it will take too much of our time to hear what Mr. Pouliot has to say. I think every member of the House is entitled to be heard by the committee. That is my point of view. So I will move that we hear Mr. Pouliot.

Hon. Mr. GOUIN: Mr. Chairman, I second the motion made by Mr. LaCroix. I am far from being sure that I will agree with the statement to be made by Mr. Pouliot. I do not know what it is about. But I think that there is no such urgency for us to proceed with the choice of the flag that we cannot take the time to obtain any enlightenment which might be put at our disposal by a member of the House of Commons who comes before us like a friend, a subject of the King, asking to be heard like a good Canadian.

Mr. MATTHEWS: Mr. Chairman, I would take no objection to Mr. Pouliot's being heard; but I think in justice to the committee he should give us a very definite idea of the length of time he expects to take.

Mr. POULIOT: Three pages of foolscap.

Mr. HANSELL: Mr. Chairman, I have given some considerable thought to parliamentary procedure along these lines, and I have come to the conclusion that in order to have a real democratic type of parliament, a committee should be open to all members, with the exception of voting powers. Therefore I am in agreement with the motion. I would suggest, however, that there is something in the argument that you create a precedent whereby a good deal of time is taken up, but that could be handled I think very carefully by the committee making a motion to the effect that one afternoon, or something of that kind, be set aside to hear presentations from members of the House who are not members of the committee. I do not suppose there would be many members who would want to do that. I would agree with the motion.

Hon. Mr. ASELTINE: Mr. Chairman, do you not think we are out of order? We have a report of the committee up for adoption, or at least we have received a report. We should do something with it before we consider this other matter, should we not?

The CHAIRMAN: You are quite right. I think Senator Aseltine's point is quite well taken. I think that before we proceed with the proposal regarding Mr. Pouliot's request, we have to decide whether or not we want to adopt the report of Mr. Harris from the subcommittee regarding procedure.

Hon. Mr. HOWDEN: Mr. Chairman, I will reiterate a motion I made several days ago, that we proceed to eliminate flags by the process of ballot.

Mr. HARRIS: That is the report.

The CHAIRMAN: That is the motion.

Hon. Mr. HOWDEN: I would move the adoption of the report, then.

Mr. McIVOR: I second that.

(Motion agreed to.)

The CHAIRMAN: I declare the report adopted.

Mr. HARRIS: Mr. Chairman, with respect to Mr. LaCroix's motion, I am quite sure that the committee would profit by anything that Mr. Pouliot would say. I am quite sure we would be entertained in any event. But I should like to point out that if you do grant this privilege to Mr. Pouliot, you inevitably will grant a similar privilege to the other 230-odd members of parliament who are not members of the committee. I do not suggest many of them would ask for that privilege, but I am quite sure some of them will. If you want to look forward to a procession of statements from members of parliament, who could make them when our proceedings reach the House, then you invite it by giving Mr. Pouliot the opportunity to speak here.

Mr. WARREN: Mr. Chairman, I certainly agree with the statement that the chairman has made. What we do in this committee is not final. Any member of parliament is going to have an open forum in the House of Commons and no doubt we will listen for many long and weary hours to a debate on this flag question in the House of Commons. When we meet here when parliament is in



session, we leave our duties in the House of Commons to come here. I do not think that we ought to open the door to unnecessary delay as far as the work of the flag committee is concerned. I certainly do agree with the chairman in suggesting that if we open this door, it just means opening the door for numerous other long delays.

Hon. Mr. LEGER: Mr. Chairman, I do not think we are opening the door. I think we are shutting the door. I know in our Senate committees it is always permissible for a senator who is not a member of a committee to attend; and if he has anything to say, he can say it. He can make a speech. The only privilege which he does not have is that of voting. Outside of that, any member is free to come and make known his views. As long as he keeps within the subject, there is no objection. I do not know that we should close the door. We are not creating a precedent by allowing the honourable gentleman to speak. On the other hand, if we do not allow him to speak, we are creating a precedent. For that reason I think we should hear him. I do not know what he is going to say. As the Hon. Senator has just said, I do not know whether I would agree with him or not; but I think we should hear what he has to say.

Mr. MACDONNELL: Mr. Chairman, I find myself entirely in agreement with what Mr. Hansell has said. I do not know as much about procedure as he does, but at any rate it seems to me to be common sense that committees should be prepared to hear representations from members of parliament. I realize the danger that the chairman has pointed out; but it seems to me that is a danger that all committees are subject to, and I do not think myself it is a very great danger. I do not anticipate that there will be a large number of people wishing to come and speak. It is late in the proceedings of the committee, I know, but my own feeling is that we should err on the side of allowing all views to be expressed. It is conceivable that Mr. Pouliot might change all our minds. There may be some doubt about that, but it is conceivable that he might. At any rate, I am in favour of hearing him.

Hon. Mr. QUINN: Mr. Chairman, I agree with what Senator Leger has said. We are establishing no precedent and nobody knows that better than Senator Lambert himself. The procedure in the committee of the Senate—I do not know whether it applies in the House of Commons or not—is that any members of the Senate has a right to come and express himself.

Mr. BLANCHETTE: Mr. Chairman, may I say that I am heartily in accord with the motion. I understood the position to be that at any time any member of the House of Commons wished to appear before the committee, whether he formed part of the committee or not, he was allowed to do so. Even if someone else should wish to come and make representations, I think we should accept anyone from the House of Commons or from the Senate who is not a member of this committee who might wish to come and give us his view on this very important matter of the choice of the flag.

Mr. GLADSTONE: Mr. Chairman, I do not know that I would wish to oppose this proposal; but I would point out that we have already denied to one or two members of this committee, in earlier sessions, the right to speak relative to the merits of the flag, with the idea that this opportunity would be given at a later time. I think probably Mr. Pouliot's speaking should be deferred until any member of this committee who desires to express his views has had that opportunity.

The CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, in view of the discussion that has taken place, I took the liberty of speaking to Mr. Pouliot with respect to the possibility of in any way prejudicing or influencing a vote that might be pending in connection with the flags that remain on the screen. He very kindly suggested

that if I would say so, or if the committee would agree, he would be glad to come here to-morrow, after voting had been taken on these flags and the remaining flags, whatever the number is, finally are there for our decision.

I think it is a question in connection with the next ballot as to whether the committee would like to eliminate the flag which receives the lowest number of votes, or the two flags that receive the lowest number of votes. The assumption is that at least one of those flags will be eliminated on the next vote; and whether or not it will be decided after that, when the ballot is known, to boil the thing down to two flags, remains for the committee to say. But if the suggestion that I have made meets with approval, that we proceed with the ballot on these flags, and hear Mr. Pouliot to-morrow—

Mr. MacNICOL: Or when you get time. You may not be able to meet to-morrow.

The CHAIRMAN:—or at the next meeting, we can do that. I am sure that he has been good enough to suggest that he could be quite agreeable to that suggestion, at any rate. I do not know whether you want to overrule it or not.

Some Hon MEMBERS: Agreed.

Mr. POULIOT: Thank you, sir, and thank you gentlemen.

The CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

Mr. REID: I just have this to say, Mr. Chairman, before we open things up here and hear evidence given, and it is just one word. I think it is all right to hear a member of parliament who wants to come before the committee. But if one believes what we read in the press the other day, that this is the beginning of a filibuster, I think we had better just watch out. This committee has got along fairly well, and we have been making good progress. If the coming of members of parliament before the committee is the beginning of a filibuster to influence the decision of the committee, the committee members had better give some thought to that; because once one member comes, another member will say, "Well, Mr. Pouliot was here." A report appeared in the press concerning a filibuster and there should be some consideration given as to whether this may be the beginning of it. It would be unfortunate if that occurred, because I think we have made good progress in the past, are still making good progress and can make further progress and come to a proper settlement before we get through.

The CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, I have the ballots here in my hand and we will distribute them amongst the members of the committee. This time they are marked No. 2, Drapeau National; No. 4, Crown with maple leaves; No. 5, red ensign; No. 7, Holman design. The idea is that you put a cross opposite your selection and put your name on the bottom.

Hon. Mr. ROBINSON: Could I ask a question, Mr. Chairman? At the previous committee meeting I stated that I had received a new design for Mr. Holman's flag which I was informed by Mr. Harris that I would be allowed to present at the proper time. I want a little clarification as to that before voting takes place. That is the reason I mention it now. Perhaps you would prefer me to make no reference to the vote. But there is a very slight change in the design which Mr. Holman desires. I think, if I remember it correctly, a similar request was made by another member of the committee and an answer was given.

The CHAIRMAN: I think you had better wait until after the result of this ballot, Senator Robinson.

Mr. LACROIX: It is not the intention of the chair to take the vote right away on these four designs, is it?

The CHAIRMAN: Yes, that was the idea.



Mr. LACROIX: Why not wait until to-morrow and give us a chance to take a vote?

The CHAIRMAN: We should like it to be done now.

Mr. HARRIS: Mr. Chairman, the subcommittee decided that you could draw these flags in the dark if you wanted to. You have known these flags for months and you can make your choice now and not delay it for another meeting.

Hon. Mr. WHITE: Is this a secret ballot?

Mr. HARRIS: Quite so.

Hon. Mr. WHITE: Do we put our names on the ballot?

The CHAIRMAN: Put your names on. We want to count the ballots and it is easier to count them with the names on.

Mr. BLANCHETTE: The idea is to vote for one flag, is it, Mr. Chairman?

Mr. HARRIS: One flag.—While the clerk is counting the ballots I would like to put to the meeting a resolution which reached me from a minister of the Crown under the seal of the Corporation of the City of Quebec. This resolution was passed at a meeting of the city council held on May 17, 1946, at the City Hall, and reads as follows:

Resolved that the Council of the City of Quebec, in support of a great many patriotic and national associations, respectfully pray the Government of Canada, when the adoption of a national flag will be discussed, to kindly take into consideration the desire generally expressed by a great many citizens of Quebec, that the flag thus selected be clearly representative of the Canadian nationality to the exclusion of any mark not essentially national.

That a copy of the present resolution be transmitted to the authorities of the Government of Canada, for their kind consideration and action.

Certified:

(Sgd.) F. X. CHOUINARD,  
*City Clerk of Quebec.*

The CHAIRMAN: The balloting having been completed, I will ask the clerk to read the results.

The CLERK OF THE COMMITTEE: No. 2, drapeau national, ten votes; No. 4, crown with maple leaves, one vote; No. 5, the red ensign, eighteen votes; No. 7, the Holman design, three votes; a total of thirty-two votes were cast.

Hon. Mr. HOWDEN: Mr. Chairman, we have now taken up enough time on this business and I should like to suggest as a means of not wasting any more time that I make now as a first motion that the two flags receiving the least number of votes be dropped. If the motion is either carried or defeated, I am prepared to make a further motion if I have the opportunity.

The CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, there is a motion before the meeting that flags No. 4 and No. 7 be eliminated as the result of the vote which has just been taken. They are the crown with the maple leaves, which received one vote, and No. 7, the Holman flag from Prince Edward Island, which received three votes. The motion is that both these flags be eliminated and that the final selection be made of the drapeau nationale and the red ensign.

Carried.

Hon. Mr. HOWDEN: Mr. Chairman, I will make a further motion that a small select committee consisting of seven members including the chairman be appointed to submit compromise proposals to this committee for consideration.

Mr. MacNICOL: Why say "compromise"? Why not say "to consider"?

Hon. Mr. HOWDEN: My idea is, although I doubt anything of the kind, to see if by any chance a suggestion can be made to this committee which will meet with the acceptance, if not approval, of all.

Mr. HARRIS: Mr. Chairman, may I speak to the motion? The subcommittee this afternoon, as I informed you a few moments ago, made a decision which has been carried out, that when we got down to two flags the subcommittee might have to study the matter very thoroughly before they make a recommendation to you as to the next step; and particularly in view of the request made by Mr. Pouliot that he be heard and our half assurance that he would be, I wonder if the committee would not pass Senator Howden's motion now, but that we adjourn and that the subcommittee study the question further and report to the committee at another meeting.

Hon. Mr. HOWDEN: That is quite all right.

The CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, you have heard the motion that the committee adjourn to meet at the call of the chair.

Carried.

The Committee adjourned to meet at the call of the chair.

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#### HOUSE OF COMMONS

May 29, 1946.

The Joint Special Committee of the Senate and the House of Commons, appointed to consider and report upon a suitable design for a distinctive national flag for Canada, met this day at 5 o'clock p.m. Mr. W. E. Harris (Chairman of the House of Commons section) presided.

The CHAIRMAN: I will ask Senator Lambert to present the report of the steering committee.

Hon. Mr. LAMBERT: The subcommittee beg to submit a resolution in the following form bearing upon the further procedure to be adopted in connection with the two flags voted on yesterday, namely:

That a subcommittee be appointed to which the two remaining flags be referred and that the subcommittee be directed to make suggestions that will go as far as possible towards reconciling the conflicting views expressed in the committee and towards working out a design which will be generally acceptable to the committee.

Hon. Mr. HOWDEN: That is practically my motion of yesterday. I so move today.

Hon. Mr. LEGER: I second that.

Mr. ZAPLITNY: Before this is voted on could we have some indication as to how this committee is to be appointed, whether it will be chosen from the committee here by the committee or appointed by the chairman, or what the procedure will be?

The CHAIRMAN: The custom has been that the chairman will choose them. I suggest it is a good custom because certain balances and representations have to be borne in mind, and I think the chairman can do that.

Mr. ZAPLITNY: I notice there is no number stated here as to the subcommittee. Is there any indication how many will be on that committee?

The CHAIRMAN: I think that the subcommittee should be the same number as we have had, that is, seven on the subcommittee and the two chairmen of the main committee, the subcommittee consisting of five from the House of Commons and two from the Senate.



Hon. Mr. WHITE: That would be nine all told including the chairmen.

The CHAIRMAN: Right, nine all told. Before the motion is put I think we should welcome our new member, Senator Paterson, who is taking the place of Senator Davies. Have you all seen a copy of the resolution?

Mr. HANSELL: The implications in the report of the subcommittee to my mind are tremendously involved. The motion as it reads is simple, but the principles involved seem to me to be more or less serious.

Mr. MACNICOL: Seem to be what?

Mr. HANSELL: There seem to be more or less serious principles involved. I do not like the term "compromise".

Mr. MACNICOL: Neither do I.

Mr. HANSELL: Because I do not believe that a compromise will really satisfy anyone. I must say that I am agreeable to some type of cooperation. I want the flag committee to be able eventually to bring in a more or less unanimous report, but if the compromise is to do away with the union jack then all I can say is that personally I am not in favour of it. That is my own personal conviction. I cannot help it, and there you are. I cannot help reading into the resolution—perhaps I have no right to do so—that to strike a compromise the union jack will be done away with on the flag. I do not think I can vote for a motion of that kind.

Hon. Mr. HOWDEN: That does not necessarily follow.

Mr. HANSELL: It does not necessarily follow. Perhaps it is a conjecture on my part, but I think it does because I believe if I get the tenor of the discussions correctly there is no other particular issue at stake. I do not think that the committee are against the maple leaf. Personally I am not over enthusiastic about it myself, but I will compromise that far and have the maple leaf. I do not think that the committee are against having the color red although I am not very fussy about that either, but I will compromise that far.

So what is there to compromise on if it is not the union jack? Therefore I think I am reading into this motion something that is pretty true, and I cannot see my way clear to vote for it. I do have a suggestion to make. It is not along the line of a motion at all. I do not know whether it will be acceptable to the committee, but I should like to see these two flags submitted to the people of Canada and let them decide. I think it would be well worth the time and money that would be involved. Let them decide.

Hon. Mr. HOWDEN: In what way?

Mr. HANSELL: By way of a plebiscite.

The CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, and Mr. Hansell in particular, the word "compromise" has not been used in this resolution. I think the idea behind it is not what you have in mind at all. Of course, I have no way of guiding the subcommittee. There have been a great many suggestions placed before the committee both for and against the union jack, for and against other symbols, and so on. So far as I am concerned this resolution is a means of facilitating the work of the committee because we are now to the point where a whole lot of things will have to be considered. We feel that they might be better considered in a small committee than to call together such a distinguished gathering once or twice a week. Our work will always be subject, of course, to coming back here for veto and otherwise, but I must respectfully suggest to Mr. Hansell that while it may be only conjecture, as you say, I think perhaps you are taking a view which is probably not representative of the rest of the committee.

Mr. HANSELL: I hope so.

The CHAIRMAN: As to the other matter of referring these flags to the people of Canada I would point out that the committee is acting on terms of reference

which say that we are to choose a distinctive Canadian flag and report back to the House of Commons and the Senate. I assure all members that we will do that, and I do not think it is within our power to consult the people of Canada on it. Is there any further discussion?

Mr. McNICOL: I should like to say a few words, too. Mr. Hansell to some extent expressed my feelings. When I was appointed to the committee I came with an open mind (some on committee laughed)—Mr. Chairman, I believe I have demonstrated that I came with an open mind through the study I made of each and every flag, which I have reported on before, and I am not going to report on it again now. I believe I stated my conclusions which arose from the examination of each and every flag so that I do not altogether understand that laugh. I want to go back to previous occasions. Every time that a flag resolution has been mentioned in the House during all the year I have been here—eight or nine different times—I stood up for the union jack. I have not changed my opinion that the union jack is the most beautiful flag in the world bar none, and there is no flag like it flying anywhere that is 1, 2, 3 in beauty and conception with the union jack. I did not see why we had to change it at all but for the sake of harmony I finally decided I would go a distance, but there is a limit as to how far a man can go and show any backbone at all. I went from the union jack to the red ensign because it was flying at the mast at the head of these buildings. I went further to have the maple leaf put on the field. How much further I am prepared to go, I do not know; but I believe I have gotten almost to the limit that I am going to go. I did not like what was reported here yesterday by Mr. Thomas Reid, that is the report he gave, that a large committee had gone to see the Prime Minister to state that they would not have any union jack on the flag. I can tell you this, Mr. Chairman, that if the union jack is not on our flag, whatever flag is chosen by the committee will not be very popular throughout this country. To be popular, it will have to have the union jack on it.

I commend the two chairmen for the efforts they are making to bring about an acceptable solution to the problem. I think the chairmen have been fair all the way through and have gone a long distance to obtain harmony. They have not made any effort whatever to rush any decision, although we have been meeting a long time to deal with the matter of the flag; in fact, the whole country is laughing at us taking so long. There are editorials almost daily laughing at this committee for taking the length of time they have taken, but I am not going to pass on that. I will content myself by saying what I said a moment ago, that the chairmen have been fair all the way through. However, the time is just about here for us to arrive at a decision. It will not be unanimous. I do not expect that it will be unanimous. Very little goes through the House of Commons that is unanimous. But certainly a majority of us, I think, will bring in some choice.

Mr. ZAPLITNY: Mr. Chairman, at the outset I want to endorse what Mr. MacNicol has said about the beauty of the union jack. But at the same time—

The CHAIRMAN: Excuse me a moment, Mr. Zaplitny. I failed once again in my duty. I wonder if we could keep the discussion down to the resolution and not to the flag part of it.

Mr. ZAPLITNY: I will do that, Mr. Chairman. I was going to say that, at the same time, I do not know why there seems to be such a horror of the word "compromise" amongst some of our members, with all due respect; because it seems to me that the whole history of this country has been one of compromise.

Some Hon. MEMBERS: Hear, hear.

Mr. ZAPLITNY: Had it not been for compromise, there would not have been confederation, and there would not have been a lot of things. I for one am not



afraid of the word. I think it is the proper word to use because it conveys the meaning that is required. If you take the opposite to that word, that means that we shall have to be uncompromising; and if we are going to do that, I do not know where it is going to lead us. I think if members of this committee would only substitute the words—I am not moving an amendment; I am just rhetorically saying this—the words “the Canadian people” for the word “committee”, they would soon see what I mean. You could see what we have to choose here is something which will reconcile the conflicting views expressed in this country and towards working out a design that will be generally acceptable to the people of Canada. We have to look a little further than just for four walls of this committee; and I am convinced, from what I have heard both in this committee and out of it, that unless we are able to report on something that will be in the nature of a compromise, something which will perhaps have a little of both proposals, then we shall not have something acceptable to all the people of Canada. I would say, without referring to any particular design, that we must never forget that there is more to a flag than mere design. The colours in the flag, I think, convey as much as the design; and we could surely take the colours of one flag together with the design of the other and work them together, into one flag that would be acceptable to all.

The CHAIRMAN: All in favour of the motion?

Some Hon. MEMBERS: Carried.

Hon. Mr. ASELTINE: I think I should inform the chairman that the Senate is facing an adjournment of about two weeks. Would you take that into consideration?

Hon. Mr. LAMBERT: That will be taken into consideration.

The CHAIRMAN: Contrary? I declare the motion carried.

Motion agreed to.

Mr. POULIOT: Mr. Chairman—

The CHAIRMAN: Excuse me a moment, Mr. Pouliot. I have a small bill for \$9.72 which I should like the committee to recommend payment of. It is from the S. S. Holden Company in connection with the manufacture of flags.

Mr. REID: I will move that, Mr. Chairman.

Motion agreed to.

Mr. HANSELL: When will this subcommittee be appointed, Mr. Chairman?

The CHAIRMAN: Not likely until the Senate resumes. It might be appointed in the meantime, but it certainly will not meet in the next two weeks in any event.

Mr. HANSELL: Will we be informed who are to be on it, when it is appointed?

The CHAIRMAN: There is one more thing that we have in the way of unfinished business. Our good friend Mr. Pouliot made a request yesterday that he might address the committee. Before we deal with his application, however, I should like to refer to Beauchesne, Third Edition, page 195, which reads as follows:

531. A member who is not a member of the committee has no right whatever to attend for the purpose of addressing the committee, or of putting questions to witnesses, or interfering in any way in the proceedings.

That was my thought yesterday and yet I did not have the reference available. However, under the circumstances, I feel that Mr. Pouliot has been labouring under a great disability lately. He apparently promised the press that he would not make a speech in the House of Commons, and perhaps it is necessary that he make a speech somewhere. Seriously, gentlemen, I am prepared to ask you,

as a matter of courtesy, to hear Mr. Pouliot's presentation, yet at the same time on the distinct understanding that hereafter we will observe the rule I have just read. I take it that there is no serious objection.

Then will you proceed Mr. Pouliot?

Mr. POULIOT: Thank you very much, sir.

Senator Lambert, Mr. Harris and gentlemen. I was moved by your reception yesterday and I thank you for according me the honour of addressing you today. I was very sorry to read in the press that one of my old and dearest friends expressed the opinion yesterday that I would have come for the purpose of a filibuster. Nothing was farther from my mind. I come today with an olive branch in my hand. It is Hansard of November 8, last year, in which are recorded some of the speeches delivered in the House of Commons on the controversial flag issue.

When you look at the flag, you have to raise your eyes, because it is high above the ground. Should it not be also high above all political controversy? I am not going to engage in one about the word "compromise". It is your business to decide the procedure of the committee as you feel like it; but, in my humble view, men of your experience who have studied the flag question more than anybody else in the country, should be able to find a common ground of mutual understanding. The selection of the symbol of the country is a lofty task, although it is a very arduous and painstaking one, and I sympathize with you. I am delighted that you have overcome many difficulties that were in your way and you have at least arrived at the final stage. The order of reference is that it is expedient that Canada possess a distinctive Canadian flag. You are not bound by the order-in-council which was passed before the session last year for the hoisting of the red ensign on public buildings, particularly on the peace tower here.

I know you are free to decide whatever you think in your good judgment will be the emblem of this country. Last year I did my share in trying to assist you by writing a series of articles in "La Presse" which is the largest French language newspaper in America, the president of which is a member of the Senate, to explain to the public at large what the meaning of a national flag is. My purpose was to get in touch with a large group of people in the province of Quebec, and outside of Quebec who believed that the French fleur-de-lys should have been represented in the flag; I convinced them that they should drop that suggestion and in its stead recommend that the emblem of no other country should be included in a distinctive national flag. I achieved my aim, and these people sacrificed their view and set an example. True Canadians believe that a national flag must be the emblem or the ensign of a country, and if you look again at the order of reference you will notice that it says it is expedient.—I think it is premature—that Canada have a distinctive Canadian flag.

Nobody can know better than you what a distinctive national flag is. But again I tried to assist you, gentlemen, by making a practical suggestion in the House of Commons which appeared in Hansard of November 8, and it is precisely because that suggestion has not been brought before the committee that I come here, and I thank you with all my heart for affording me an opportunity to address you briefly.

You know very well that General Smuts of South Africa is a loyal Britisher; you know very well that South Africa is a loyal dominion—not more loyal than is Canada, but just as loyal—but in South Africa they have two flags; the union jack as the emblem of the empire and the South African flag which is a distinctive national flag. This is an example which I mentioned in October last in "La Presse"; and again on November 8 when I spoke in the House of Commons; and I leave it to you to decide; I have no right to share your responsibilities in the decision that you are to make—this is a precedent and it is one which should be considered by you gentlemen and, as a consequence, the choice of two flags, one



the union jack, for the empire, and the other, a distinctive Canadian flag for Canada, should meet with the approval of all citizens of this country. I will warn you about something: there should be no idea of superiority and master race between our fellow citizens. We are equals. I remember the profound words which were uttered by Mr. Mackenzie King in Quebec City twenty years ago when he was leaving for the Imperial Conference of 1926. He was speaking of his status in the House of Commons as Prime Minister of Canada; he said: "We are all equals, and as Prime Minister when I sit in the House of Commons, I am the first amongst equals." Those are true words which should be remembered; they should never be forgotten.

Now, gentlemen, I was shocked when I read yesterday in the press a recommendation which has been made to the committee by someone in New York who was willing to minimize the union jack. I respect the union jack. It is flown in the province of Quebec as everywhere else; it is flown throughout the country; but it is flown as the flag of the empire. I do not want it to be minimized as a fraction of the flag. If we are to have it, let us have it in full, but let us also have a real Canadian flag. The people of Canada have reached the stage where they should be on a status of equality with all other nations of the world, and there is a time which is coming very soon when Canada would be in a better position to help the empire if she were considered as what she really is. Gentlemen, I have almost concluded. I have made my suggestion; I made it last year in the House and I repeat it today: and it is precisely because I know we are in contact with the people whom we want to be happy. You do not want the flag to be a political or religious issue in Canada; you want the flag to be far above that, above all difficulties, above all controversies as are all national flags that are hoisted high up in the air, high up in churches. They are not a profane thing, they are an ideal, the ideal of a country. If the choice of a distinctive national flag is premature, we have only one thing to do: let us stay where we are; let us keep the union jack alone and a full-size union jack as an emblem of colonialism to show that we have regressed a century backward to colonial status. Thank you, gentlemen.

The CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, I am sure we are very much obliged to Mr. Pouliot for his very interesting address, and now if there is no other business the committee will definitely not be meeting again until sometime after the Senate reassembles which, I think, will be about the 17th or 18th of June. I should think that the committee would not meet within a week of that date because the sub-committee will not be able to meet until then and we will not be able to have a recommendation placed before us within a few days. If there is no other business a motion to adjourn is in order.

The Committee adjourned to the call of the chair.





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The Senate and House of Commons on a,  
1946

(SESSION 1946)



(JOINT COMMITTEE OF THE SENATE AND  
THE HOUSE OF COMMONS

Appointed to Consider and Report Upon  
a Suitable Design for a Distinctive

NATIONAL FLAG  
FOR CANADA )

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MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AND EVIDENCE

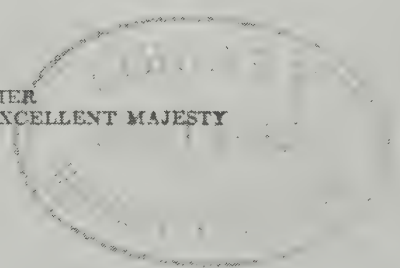
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WEDNESDAY, JULY 10, 1946

THURSDAY, JULY 11, 1946

OTTAWA  
EDMOND CLOUTIER  
PRINTER TO THE KING'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY  
1946







## FINAL REPORT

FRIDAY, July 12, 1946.

The Joint Committee of the Senate and the House of Commons appointed to consider and report upon a suitable design for a distinctive national flag for Canada, begs leave to present the following as a

### SECOND AND FINAL REPORT

Your Committee held fourteen public sessions.

The submission of designs to the Committee was publicly invited and up to and including this date, 2,695 designs were received and considered. In addition, communications in the form of written letters, resolutions and printed form cards and printed form letters to the number of 42,168 were received and whenever the sender's name and address were given, receipt was acknowledged.

Evidence was heard from Colonel A. P. Duguid, D.S.O., Army Historian, Department of National Defence (Army), and from Lieut. Commander Alan Beddoe, O.B.E., R.C.N. (R).

In the discussion of all phases of the subject assigned to the Committee an admirable spirit of tolerance and co-operation was reflected.

By a process of elimination the members of the Committee finally reduced their selection to one design, which has been evolved in the course of the deliberations of the Committee. The Committee has not prescribed the exact details of the design but has agreed upon the following recommendation:

Your Committee recommends that the National Flag of Canada should be the Canadian red ensign with a maple-leaf in autumn golden colours in a bordered background of white, replacing the coat-of-arms in the fly; the whole design to be so proportioned that the size and position of the maple-leaf in relation to the Union Jack in the Canton will identify it as a symbol distinctive of Canada as a nation.

A copy of the printed minutes of proceedings and evidence is tabled herewith.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

N. P. LAMBERT,  
*Chairman, Senate Section.*

W. E. HARRIS,  
*Chairman, House of Commons Section.*





## MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

WEDNESDAY, July 10, 1946.

The Joint Special Committee of the Senate and the House of Commons appointed to consider and report upon a suitable design for a distinctive National flag for Canada met this day at 4.00 o'clock p.m., Honourable Senator N. P. Lambert, Chairman of the Senate section, presided.

*Members present:* The Senate: Honourable Senators Gouin, Johnston, Lambert, Leger, White; The House of Commons: Messrs. Beaudoin, Blanchette, Castleden, Emmerson, Gingues, Gladstone, Hackett, Hansell, Harris (*Grey-Bruce*), Herridge, LaCroix, Lafontaine, Macdonnell (*Muskoka-Ontario*), MacNicol, Matthews (*Brandon*), McCulloch (*Pictou*), McIvor, Reid, Smith (*Calgary West*), Stirling, Thatcher.

On the motion of Mr. McIvor, a statement was authorized in connection with some cards which have been circulated in respect to the choice of a national flag. (*See first page of to-day's evidence for text of statement*).

The Chairman called upon the Joint Chairman, Mr. W. E. Harris, to report from the Subcommittee's meeting at 3.45 p.m. this day. Mr. Harris reported,—

1. Your subcommittee was directed to consider the two remaining flags and to reconsider the conflicting views expressed in the Committee.
2. The conflicting views were those for and against the inclusion of the Union Jack on the Canadian flag.
3. Your subcommittee considered that the only possible approach to the problem was to find some acceptable symbol to use instead of the Union Jack.
4. Your subcommittee regrets that it has been unable to find such a symbol.

On the motion of Mr. Stirling, it was resolved to proceed with a discussion of the motion and amendment thereto which were tabled at meeting of May 8.

Mr. Gladstone, —That this Committee recommended that the Flag of Canada shall be the Canadian red ensign with a maple leaf in autumn golden colour replacing the coat-of-arms on the fly.

Mr. Blanchette moved an amendment to above,—That the committee instead recommended as a national flag design marked No. 268, as submitted by La Ligue du Drapeau National or National Flag Clubs.

An amendment to the proposed amendment was moved by Mr. Hansell,—That we report back to parliament that this Committee recommended two designs for the consideration of the people of Canada. The Chairman ruled the amendment to the amendment out of order as being in conflict with the terms of reference to the Committee.

The question was then put on the proposed amendment of Mr. Blanchette's and it was negatived on a recorded division: *Yeas:* Senators Gouin, Leger, Messrs. Beaudoin, Blanchette, Emmerson, Gingues, LaCroix, Lafontaine—8; *Nays:* Senators Johnston, White; Messrs. Gladstone, Hackett, Hansell, Harris, Herridge, Macdonnell, MacNicol, Matthews, McIvor, Reid, Smith, Stirling, Thatcher—15.

On a motion by Mr. Hackett,—It was resolved that the main motion be not now proceeded with but that an enlarged subcommittee be instructed to explore and do everything possible to make a recommendation that will be acceptable to the great majority of the Committee.

At 6.10 p.m., the meeting adjourned to meet again at the call of the Chair.

THURSDAY, July 11, 1946.

The Joint Special Committee of the Senate and the House of Commons appointed to consider and report upon a suitable design for a distinctive National flag for Canada met this day at 7.30 o'clock p.m. Mr. W. E. Harris, Chairman of the House of Commons section, presided.

*Members present:* The Senate:—Honourable Senators Johnston, Lambert, Leger, White; The House of Commons:—Messrs. Beaudoin, Blanchette, Castle-den, Emmerson, Gladstone, Hackett, Hansell, Harris (*Grey-Bruce*), Herridge, LaCroix, Lafontaine, Macdonnell (*Muskoka-Ontario*), MacNicol, Matthews (*Brandon*), McCulloch (*Pictou*), McIvor, Reid, Smith (*Calgary West*), Stirling, Thatcher, Warren, Zaplitny.

The Chairman called upon the Joint Chairman, Senator N. P. Lambert, to report from the subcommittee meeting held this date at 2.00 p.m. Senator Lambert reported that the subcommittee had unanimously adopted the following recommendation for consideration by the Committee:—

This committee recommends that the National Flag of Canada should be the Canadian red ensign with a maple leaf in autumn golden colours in a bordered background of white replacing the coat-of-arms in the fly; the whole design to be so proportioned that the size and position of the maple leaf in relation to the Union Jack in the Canton will identify it as a symbol distinctive of Canada as a nation.

On the motion of Mr. Smith, the subcommittee's report was adopted. *Yeas: 21, Nays: 1*—Mr. LaCroix dissenting.

By leave of the Committee, Mr. Gladstone withdrew his motion which had been tabled on May 8, and substituted the recommendation of the subcommittee as a motion. The question being put on this motion, it was approved by 23 Votes to 1, Mr. LaCroix dissenting.

On a motion by Mr. MacNicol it was resolved,

That any expenditures incurred for the manufacture of proposed designs of flags be approved.

On a motion of Mr. Beaudoin, it was unanimously resolved,

That a vote of thanks be extended to all who submitted designs and suggestions to aid the committee in its task.

The committee thereupon met in camera to consider its Final Report which was adopted on the motion of Mr. Beaudoin, seconded by Senator White. Mr. LaCroix again dissented.

On the motion of Mr. Smith, the Joint Chairmen were authorized to present the report to their respective Houses.

At 8.05 p.m. the Committee adjourned *sine die*.

F. J. CORCORAN,  
*Clerk of the Joint Committee.*



## MINUTES OF EVIDENCE

HOUSE OF COMMONS,

July 10, 1946

The Joint Special Committee of the Senate and the House of Commons, appointed to consider and report upon a suitable design for a distinctive national flag for Canada, met this day at 4 o'clock p.m. Hon. N. P. Lambert, (Chairman of the Senate section), presided.

The CHAIRMAN: It is gratifying to see such an attendance at this committee after such a long recess. The first matter that I should like to draw to your attention today is in connection with a card that was circulated amongst the members of the committee signed more or less anonymously. We have drawn up a statement which we hope will be acceptable.

Resolved that the following statement be authorized:—

The Joint Parliamentary Committee on Canadian Flag is in receipt of a large number of cards showing the red ensign in colour with the armorial bearings of Canada on the fly. The printing on these cards and the instructions as to mailing them has given rise to the thought in the minds of the public that they emanate from the committee. The Flag Committee wishes it to be known that they are in no way responsible for the printing or circulation of these cards, but have evidence that they are being issued by a private individual who is not connected in any way with the committee and who does not see fit to include his name on them as sponsor.

I think if that statement is given to the press it will dispose of any impressions that exist as to the authorization of that card originating in this committee. Would some one move this resolution if it is acceptable?

Mr. McIVOR: I will move it. I do not think that a card or a letter that has not got a name attached to it is of very great importance. There is not much weight to it.

The CHAIRMAN: There were 2,311 of them received by the committee in various ways which had no real authentic sponsorship at all. Will someone second that?

Mr. MacNICOL: I will.

The CHAIRMAN: All those in favour of this resolution?  
Carried.

I would now ask the joint chairman, Mr. Harris, to make a statement with regard to the subcommittee's deliberations on the resolution that was passed at the conclusion of our last sittings. I will read the resolution so as to bring it back to your minds. The resolution that was adopted at the conclusion of our last meeting was:—

That a subcommittee be appointed to which the two remaining flags be referred and that the subcommittee be directed to make suggestions that will go as far as possible towards reconciling the conflicting views expressed in the committee and towards working out a design which will be generally acceptable to the committee.

Mr. HARRIS: Mr. Chairman, the report of the subcommittee is as follows: Your subcommittee was directed to consider the two remaining flags and to reconcile the conflicting views expressed in the committee. The conflicting views were those for and against the inclusion of the union jack in the Canadian flag. Your subcommittee considered that the only possible approach to the problem was to find some acceptable symbol to use instead of the union jack. Your subcommittee regrets it has been unable to find such a symbol.

The CHAIRMAN: You have heard the report. I do not think there is any motion or resolution that needs to be moved in connection with it.

Mr. LaCROIX: Mr. Chairman, I am very sorry indeed that the subcommittee arrived at that conclusion. Whether or not Canada should have a distinctive flag is a question that should be considered carefully and impartially. It is not sufficient to say that the union jack has braved the battle and the breeze for a thousand years—first, because that is untrue as it dates from 1801 only;—second, it would be an appeal to sentiment only and not to reason; and third, because however old the flag is and whatever it has stood for in the past does not indicate that it is the proper flag for Canadians to fly today.

If the continued use of the union jack is supported by sentiment, that would be the equivalent of an assertion that Britain is placed first in our affections and Canada second—an assertion that should be deprecated by all true Canadians. And if its use is supported by the assertion of protection to Canada, mention should be made of the illegal seizure over a number of years by the American naval patrol of 14 Canadian ships flying the British flag without even a serious protest by Britain.

In a discussion of the subject prejudice must be put aside as much as possible and the question decided only after an impartial study to ascertain whether or not Canada should have her own distinctive flag.

Two flags have been authorized by Canada up till now:—

1st. The flag of the Governor-General. This flag was authorized by King George V on the advice of Mr. Bennett, at that time Prime Minister. It is the personal flag of the Governor-General and may not be used by anyone else.

2nd. The Merchant Marine flag. This flag, the red ensign with the Canadian badge in the fly, was flown from shortly after confederation by Canadian ships. A warrant was issued by the Admiralty in 1892 permitting our ships to fly it. This flag was a British flag as it was flown by the authority of the Admiralty Warrant. There is no doubt about that.

Quite true, it was authorized by the Canadian Merchant Shipping Act and moreover, in January 1924 for use on the buildings owned or occupied by the Canadian government outside Canada. But the fact still remains that it was authorized first of all by the British Admiralty in 1892.

A national flag must not conflict with the design of another flag.

A national flag must be distinctly recognizable when flying.

The design must not be complicated or multicolored.

An illustration taken from a Canadian government photograph of the red ensign flying on a Canadian merchant ship indicates that only the union jack is in evidence.

When flying ashore such a flag is equally indistinguishable from the British flag, as senators and members will have noticed in seeing the red ensign flying on the tower of the centre block of the parliament buildings.

The flag submitted to the consideration of this committee by the Ligue du Drapeau National, owing to its diagonal division is the only one that illustrates the full equality of both races. It is the only line which under heraldic dispositions does not mark the subjection of one race to the other.

The CHAIRMAN: May I ask you if you are intending to submit a resolution at this time?



Mr. LACROIX: Yes.

The CHAIRMAN: I do not wish to interfere with you moving a resolution, but you are talking to nothing. There is an order of business waiting that we should deal with. You have a concluding resolution?

Mr. LACROIX: Yes. Red represents the English race and white, the French race. It is a unique and original disposition which well symbolizes the particular ethnical situation that prevails in Canada. It is also a simple design being composed of the two colours universally acknowledged as distinguishing our two great races. My insistence in asking for a distinctive national flag does not come from a desire to put forward a movement in favour of something that could be qualified as un-British.

Asking for a purely Canadian flag does not constitute an act of hostility towards Great Britain; it simply tends to symbolize in the future Canadian flag the independence, the sovereignty and the equality asserted in an Act adopted by the Westminster parliament, the famous statute which proclaims that Great Britain, Canada, Australia, South Africa, are autonomous nations enjoying an equal status and in no way subordinate to anyone among them in any domestic or foreign matters. It merely consists in exercising the prerogative of a free and grown-up nation. Therefore, who in this committee could logically object to it? Moreover, I am not the only one to think so, because Mr. T. S. Ewart, 6 Lakeview Terrace, Ottawa, a prominent lawyer of this city, had set up, prior to the last federal elections, a questionnaire which was sent on to each candidate, and in a letter which he sent to Mr. J. S. Lessard, of St. Joseph de Beauce, in the province of Quebec, dated June 24, 1945, he stated as follows:—

You will be interested to know that immediately after nominations were made for the federal election we sent a questionnaire to every candidate. I enclose to you a copy of it, and I have put the result in percentages after each question. This is very satisfactory and shows the thought of the candidates on the subject. I would show, too, I think the estimate of the thought of the candidate's constituents.

The question put up to each candidate during the last elections reads as follows:—

1. Would you advocate the adoption of a national flag for Canada?  
Yes—95 per cent                      No—3.75 per cent
2. If so, have you any preference as to its design?  
Distinctively Canadian—41.24 per cent  
Include maple leaf—16.25 per cent  
Red ensign—3.75 per cent  
Include union jack—7.5 per cent.

There cannot be any doubt that the general feeling in this country clearly shows a sentiment for the choice of a distinctive national flag. In thinking so I think that I am not the only one. If you go through the book which has been published recently entitled *Canadian Army at War*, you will find on page 25 that the flag which was chosen for the first Canadian army at war when they started to fight at Normandy did not include the union jack. The flag is there, and I think what was chosen by General Crerar should be considered by ourselves.

May I add also that I am most sure—and I am using these words very carefully—that the province of Quebec will never accept the red ensign with a union jack on it. We will continue to use our flags but will never accept it.

As I feel convinced that the choice of a distinctive national flag is to meet with defeat in this committee and that such a decision will not be representative of the public opinion which more and more favours the suppression of the union jack in our national flag, I beg leave to ask the chairmen of the committee not to allow the report, if any, of the committee to be brought before

the house and postpone to next year or later any final decision about it because, Mr. Chairman, one must not forget that the flag we are to adopt shall constitute the symbol of our country for centuries to come. It should not be allowed that, owing to a decision too hastily taken, a non-Canadian practice may develop in our country whereby we would cause our children and our grandchildren to daily salute a national flag in our schools, while they are indeed saluting an emblem which is not and cannot be our own.

Up to this morning I felt that the Honourable Prime Minister, who has ever received the support of the old province of Quebec and of the truly Canadian elements in this country, would not refuse this petition which is a supreme appeal on the eve of a decision which I would estimate to be an unfortunate one.

As I understand that the subcommittee have arrived at the conclusion that we are faced now with the ultimate decision of choosing between the two flags left I move, Mr. Chairman, that the flag of La Ligue du Drapeau National shall be chosen by this committee.

The CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, I seem to be fated as chairman to have to more or less dispose of my friend, Mr. LaCroix's suggestions, in ways that are not always very acceptable to him, but actually the motion that he has made is not in order at the moment simply for this reason that having finally come to the conclusions that we reached at the last meeting supported now by the report of the subcommittee we are now faced with dealing with the first step taken when the committee met, namely, to decide whether or not you wish to take off the table the two resolutions that were proposed two or three months ago. The first resolution was that of Mr. Gladstone that this committee recommend that the flag of Canada shall be the Canadian red ensign with maple leaf in autumn golden colour replacing the coat of arms on the fly. There was an amendment to that proposed by Mr. Blanchette which read that the committee instead recommended as a national flag the design marked No. 268 as submitted by La Ligue du Drapeau National or National Flag Clubs. It was proposed that those two resolutions should be laid on the table during the interval which would be devoted to the elimination of the flags that were on the screens. Now we come back to the starting point, and I would suggest to you now that it would be in order for someone to move a resolution recommending that those two resolutions be now revived and taken from the table at which time it will be perfectly in order then for members of the committee to speak to the resolution or amendment in reference to the two flags. Mr. LaCroix, your remarks can be taken as supporting the amendment while it is still on the table. I am not sure you want to make another speech after it has been taken off but, at any rate, that is the point I want to bring out.

Mr. LACROIX: I agree with the chairman, because I am strongly supporting the amendment of Mr. Blanchette which, of course, is the same as my own.

Hon. Mr. STIRLING: I move that we proceed with the discussion of the motions to which you have referred, but may I ask whether we have disposed of the report of the sub-committee? Has that been accepted or left?

The CHAIRMAN: Owing to the inconclusive character of the report I did not think it was necessary to have a motion.

Hon. Mr. STIRLING: Then I move that we proceed to a discussion of the two motions which have been already tabled.

Mr. REID: I second that.

The CHAIRMAN: The amendment, which would be considered first, was moved by Mr. Blanchette, that the committee instead recommend as a national flag the design marked No. 268 as submitted by La Ligue du Drapeau National or National Flag Clubs. Would Mr. Blanchette like to speak to his amendment now?



Mr. BLANCHETTE: When I presented that amendment I think I made representations in favour of that flag. Those representations are on the record. I am still of the same opinion now as I was then in favour of the flag of La Ligue du Drapeau National as an amendment to the main motion of Mr. Gladstone.

The CHAIRMAN: Are there any other comments? This really means that after due discussion we will have to vote on the amendment to the main motion and then on the main motion.

Mr. LACROIX: Before going to vote on the amendment, to which I, of course, agree, may I ask the chairman if there is any way of reaching a compromise about it, or any way that something may be done to avoid a final decision which I feel will create disunity in Canada. I am speaking as a true Canadian loving his country. I feel that if we do not delay the matter, if we do not try to find a way for a compromise, that is what will happen. And I understand you did not find a way. I am asking, I am begging the chairmen to try to find some procedure in conformity with which we may study the case again.

The CHAIRMAN: I think it has been made perfectly clear to the committee earlier that the immediate responsibility and duty of this committee is to carry out the instructions that were given to it by parliament. Further than that it has no immediate responsibility, in my opinion. I think that the duty of this committee is to come to a conclusion definitely on those two resolutions and to report back to parliament. Then it becomes a question of whether or not parliament wishes to deal with those recommendations. Whether or not it is going to divide Canada, or whether members feel very strongly about it here, I do not think is very material to the objective that we have in view here today. I should suggest that you keep very definitely in mind that our responsibility is not to the people of Canada at all; it is to parliament, which gave us our instructions.

Mr. MACDONNELL: Mr. Chairman, if as seems inevitable, we are to vote here on this today, there are just one or two brief observations I should like to make. I do not think any of us can listen to the remarks made by Mr. LaCroix without being filled with very serious reflections on the subject. I should just like to say two things, really. First of all, although we have not agreed in this committee, it seems to me that it has been a very great thing that we have been able to discuss matters on which we disagreed so profoundly in a spirit as good as that which we have had here. I hope that the same attitude will continue in whatever happens from now on. If this is to be discussed in the House, I hope that it may be discussed there in the same spirit.

There is just one other thing I want to say. I had hoped all through the earlier sessions of this committee that there might be a compromise, which I certainly should have been prepared to favour. It seemed to me that it was very natural indeed that the Canadians of French language should wish that their background and history should be adequately represented on this flag. I should say that is what I hoped would be the feeling. It was a great surprise and a distinct shock to me when the flag suggestions came in and when I discovered that my hope—which was that the union jack and the fleur-de-lis should both be on the flag—was a vain hope because there was no desire on the part of Canadians of French origin that the fleur-de-lis should be there. That is my understanding and interpretation. I understand fully the logic of what they say. A distinctive flag must be a flag which has no relation to or no indication of a background other than a Canadian background. Speaking for myself—and that is all I have any right to do—I should like just to say that if I vote, as I think I must vote, for the red ensign, I do it with a feeling of great regret that it has come to that point; and I do so with a feeling of great regret that it was not possible that we could have had a flag before us with full

recognition of both races, because I do wish to feel that in giving this vote I am not in my heart wishing to do anything in the least that is without due regard to the position of the French race within Canada.

Mr. HANSELL: Mr. Chairman, I am not going to keep the committee more than a moment because I cannot add very much to what I have already said. I am just wondering if there is any particular rush about this matter. It may appear to us that we have been a long time on it already, but it is not a matter of life or death for this country whether this is adopted at this session or not. I did suggest at the last meeting—not with any particular seriousness, but to get perhaps a little feel of the subject—that this matter could be presented to the people by way of a plebiscite. I am not going to press it; I am only going to make this observation. We could consider that in more or less a serious fashion, because I think that would be a way out, a way by which we would get the feeling of Canadians. I agree with the chairman that our responsibility in this committee is to parliament, that parliament itself decides. But we have reached this place where we have two designs before us. Part of the committee are in favour of one design and the other part of the committee are in favour of the other design. Nobody is talking about a third design now. Nobody is saying, "we do not want either of these." We all agree that either one or the other should be presented to parliament. I believe this could be done.

When I put out the feeler in respect to the plebiscite I saw only one editorial which spoke against that idea, and that was from the Ottawa Journal; and it indicated that I was somewhat of a fool to present such a thing. I am not alarmed at that, because I know that occasionally I am one; but I am only one of many others. The point of the editorial was that plebiscites never settle anything, and then referred to the plebiscite on conscription. I wish to say this in respect to that editorial, that the point was not well taken. The plebiscite on conscription did settle one thing. It settled what the people of Canada wanted. What was done afterwards by the administration in respect to what the people of Canada wanted is altogether another thing. This is a different matter. It is not a matter of administration at all. It is a matter of going to the people and saying, "Which of these two flags do you want?" When the people speak, that is all there is to it. It is not a matter of any further administration. It is simply a bill going through regular process of legalizing the people's wish. That is all. Then, of course, the argument is that it costs so much money. Here is my point—and this could very well be done without taking any political sides at all. When the next election comes along, I suggest that a referendum be taken at that time. The parties do not have to kick the thing around as a political measure. All they have to do is this. When the people go to elect their government, they are also given another ballot with two designs put on the ballot. You are not voting Liberal, Conservative, Social Credit, C.C.F. or anything else. That is a separate matter altogether. That can be done without costing the country a dollar except for the printing of the paper with the two designs on. Let the people mark X opposite the one or the other design. That I say is a reasonable suggestion and I do not know if it is in order—

The CHAIRMAN: No, it is not.

Mr. HANSELL: The chairman shakes his head, so I presume it is not in order.

The CHAIRMAN: You can make that suggestion in the House.

Mr. HANSELL: But if the decks were cleared—

Mr. LACROIX: Everything which is commonsense is always out of order with you, Mr. Chairman.



The CHAIRMAN: I might just point out to Mr. Hansell—and I know he is a very reasonable person—the order of reference. To start with, this joint committee was authorized by parliament to consider and report upon a suitable design for a flag.

Mr. HANSELL: Yes.

The CHAIRMAN: We cannot go on and say a plebiscite has to be taken on that. You might make that suggestion to parliament. I think it is perfectly proper to do that in the House.

Mr. HANSELL: I agree with you, Mr. Chairman. Your point may be well taken. But there is such a thing, of course, that we could report to parliament that we are unable to reach a decision on a distinctive national flag and then make a recommendation. However, I have said what I want to say. Oh, yes, there is one other matter. I gave a broadcast not long ago to my own constituents, and I was not plugging for any particular flag. I gave the broadcast on the work of this committee, and told the people over the air that the committee had eliminated flags to the point where we had now two designs left. I explained the designs and I said in all probability the committee would choose one or other of the designs. I asked the people if they cared to write in to me and give me instructions as to which design they would like. I got 28 letters. That does not sound like very many, but I do not think most of us get very much correspondence on broadcasts that we give. I got 28 letters. Six of them said they did not want the Canadian ensign; three of them were non-committal; and the rest of them suggested the Canadian ensign. I just thought I would put that on the record.

Mr. MacNICOL: What were those figures again, Mr. Hansell?

Mr. HANSELL: I got 28 letters. Six said "no."

Mr. MacNICOL: To what?

Mr. HANSELL: Well, they did not want the Canadian ensign with the union jack on it. Three of them were non-committal, just said they enjoyed my broadcast and so on.

Mr. MacNICOL: You ought to thank them, anyway.

Mr. HANSELL: The others suggested the Canadian ensign.

Mr. BEAUDOIN: Mr. Chairman, I quite appreciate the remarks which have been made by Mr. Macdonnell and Mr. Hansell. What surprised me a little bit though is that, after our having discussed so much the matter of trying to find some way of reconciling the conflicting views in the matter, and after having sent it to a subcommittee and the subcommittee reporting that nothing can be done, no other efforts apparently are being made in order to proceed with this idea of trying to achieve some sort of compromise. Mr. Stirling seems to move that the things be proceeded with. On the other hand, Mr. Macdonnell said that he had hoped that some form of compromise would have been arrived at. We have not heard very many forms of compromise suggested by many hon. members on this committee, and precisely from the ones who said they would have hoped—and I think they are sincere—that some form of compromise could have been arrived at. If I remember the debate which took place in the House, I was not kidding myself about the possible outcome of whatever decision this committee might reach, because most members of this committee are committed to come here and get a flag with the union jack on it. What I am trying to say though is that we should have some white on the flag, and this amendment of Mr. Blanchette's to the main motion was in favour of a flag which has some white on it. Therefore I say that I will support the amendment. But I certainly would like at this stage some suggestions as ways of trying to bring about some solution, some compromise that could be discussed. In all other committees on which we sit, when there is a question which arises

on which we differ, we discuss it among ourselves and the members of the committee seem to take part in the discussion. Here it seems that there were only a few trying to bring in something which would certainly be acceptable to the country in a general way. It seems that all the others are sitting quietly in their seats waiting patiently for the rest to say their pieces and get out.

Mr. LACROIX: There is always a possibility for compromise. Could we arrive at a compromise by putting the crown in the centre of the maple leaf in the flag of La Ligue du Drapeau National? That would be a compromise. I think it would suit everybody. What do you think about that?

The CHAIRMAN: That design you suggest, of course, was eliminated on the vote.

Mr. LACROIX: No. That has never been considered.

The CHAIRMAN: Yes, the one with the crown in place of the maple leaf.

Mr. LACROIX: Everything that is commonsense seems to be ruled out.

The CHAIRMAN: Is there any further discussion?

Some Hon. MEMBERS: Question.

The CHAIRMAN: If there is no further discussion, I would ask all those who are in favour of the amendment to raise their hands.

Mr. LACROIX: I want a recorded vote.

Mr. HARRIS: Wait till we get the vote by hand, and then you can have a recorded vote if you wish it.

The CHAIRMAN: The amendment reads that the committee instead recommend as a national flag design marked 268 as submitted by La Ligue du Drapeau National or National Flag Clubs. All those in favour?

Mr. HACKETT: Is that Mr. Blanchette's amendment?

The CHAIRMAN: Yes.

Mr. HACKETT: What page is that?

The CHAIRMAN: I have a copy of it here in my hand. It is supposed to be authentic. I do not know the page.

Mr. LACROIX: I want the vote to be recorded and I want that understood.

Mr. HANSELL: If it is in order to move an amendment to the amendment, I will move it and then I will let you rule it out of order if you want to, so that it may be on record. I will move, Mr. Chairman, that we report back to parliament that this committee recommend two designs for the consideration of the people of Canada.

The CHAIRMAN: I have no alternative but to rule that out of order, because the reference says "a suitable design".

Mr. LACROIX: Why is that out of order?

The CHAIRMAN: Read the reference and you will see why it is out of order.

Mr. LACROIX: If you are ruling out everything which is commonsense, what is the use of our meeting?

The CHAIRMAN: Is there anything else? All those in favour of this amendment?

Hon. Mr. LEGER: Would a motion something like this be in order: Your committee has had under consideration the submissions submitted to it and after due deliberation beg to report that it has been unable to agree on one design only and in consequence thereof submits to the house for its consideration two designs, namely—and then name the two designs?

The CHAIRMAN: Did you read the reference to the committee?

Hon. Mr. LEGER: I did read the reference. But on any reference you are not obliged to report that you have done such and such a thing. After due deliberation you can simply report your submission, and I submit this. Then



it would be up to the house to decide between the two; instead of our deciding now, the house would decide on the two. I think that that would certainly be in order. It is somewhat similar to what my friend (Mr. Hansell) has submitted, and I think it is in order.

The CHAIRMAN: I do not wish to monopolize the time discussing this point, but I think it is very definitely before this committee to come to a decision on these two flags and to take a vote on the amendment and on the resolution. Then when the results of those votes are made known and a report from this committee is being prepared to present to parliament—a report which, I assume, would be drafted by the chairman and submitted to the committee for its approval before being made to parliament—we, in that report, amongst other things, including the number of sittings we have had and so on, would establish the final vote on these two designs and show the result of the vote.

Now, then, parliament will have the matter before it in a very concrete way in that way. If we were to send in a report such as you suggest, we would be sending in an inconclusive report from this committee which would be of no guidance at all to the house.

Hon. Mr. LEGER: Only this, that in a resolution of this sort you have a resolution to the effect that the committee has considered both flags. Now, in your resolution you will only consider the report of the committee; that is the only thing you can consider; and the report of the committee would be in favour of such a design—in favour of only one design. Now, by adopting this resolution you bring back to parliament two flags and parliament will decide whether it will adopt one design or the other. In other words, you are taking back to parliament two designs instead of one.

Mr. LACROIX: I am challenging your ruling, Mr. Chairman, if Senator Leger will agree.

Hon. Mr. LEGER: No, no—

The CHAIRMAN: I think the point Senator Leger raises can be raised just as easily on the main motion as it can on the amendment. I think it is the duty of this committee to vote on the amendment, and I would ask you to express your opinion on the amendment.

Mr. HARRIS: May I interrupt the proceedings for a moment? As I understand Senator Leger's preamble to his proposed resolution, it is based on the assumption that we cannot agree on a design, therefore we—

Hon. Mr. LEGER: That we cannot unanimously agree on a design.

Mr. HARRIS: Is it necessary that we should do so? I have never served on a committee where there was unanimity. When we have voted on these things, and have carried a resolution here so that we might not support either of them, it will be time, I think, to consider sending both to parliament. Surely the committee will be doing something that has never been done before in going back to the house and saying: "You have asked us to choose one design and we have chosen two designs; now it is your turn"; because every member of the House of Commons and every senator can undoubtedly introduce a second flag when the report of this committee is under discussion in the respective houses.

Hon. Mr. LEGER: If you give us the assurance that the second flag can be introduced then my resolution has no virtue at all, but I doubt very much whether one can introduce an alternative flag in parliament when the report is made. If you give us the assurance that the other design can be introduced in the house then I say my resolution has no virtue at all.

Mr. LACROIX: As it is the privilege of every member to challenge any decision of the chair—

Mr. HARRIS: No, it is not his privilege in committee.

The CHAIRMAN: Not in committee.

Mr. HARRIS: The rules are quite clear. If the chairman makes a decision the committee must abide by it, there is no appeal from the ruling. May I give the assurance that Senator Leger knows I will have to give—he knows much more about parliamentary procedure than I do—that it is open to any member of this committee in either House to bring in, by way of amendment to the report we make, any design—not only the two that are in front of us, but any of the 2,400 designs that have been in front of us, or he may bring in an amendment and say that the job has not been well done and that the matter should be referred back to the committee and that no action should be taken by the House. I am sure that our members would enjoy doing that more in the House than here.

The CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, will you vote on this amendment now? All those in favour of the amendment signify by raising their right hand.

Mr. LaCROIX: I am asking for a recorded vote.

(A recorded vote having been taken, 8 votes were cast in favour of the amendment and 15 votes against).

The CHAIRMAN: I declare the amendment lost. Now let us come to the motion, that this committee recommend that the flag of Canada shall be the Canadian red ensign with the maple leaf in autumn golden colour replacing the coat of arms on the fly.

Mr. LaCROIX: Mr. Chairman, it seems to be a foregone conclusion that even since the beginning this committee had decided in favour of retaining the union jack on our flag.

It also seems that everything is being fixed up and organized against anyone favouring a distinctive flag as was requested by the House when this committee was set up.

Under these circumstances, there is nothing for me to do now but to attend to the general business of the House. It would seem that our presence here is no longer required.

Before I leave, let me tell you that the province of Quebec and a large portion of Canadians in all other provinces will never accept a Canadian flag with a union jack on it.

So, Mr. Chairman and my colleagues, I bid you au revoir.

Mr. HARRIS: Mr. Chairman, I should like to say something in answer to Mr. LaCroix. I resent entirely on behalf of myself or the members of the committee who are left here his implication or his statement that this thing was fixed up; as for his statement that both now and in the future no one in the province of Quebec would accept this flag, and may I say that it will be the first time in history that the province of Quebec did not loyally accept anything which might be done by the Parliament of Canada, if this is done later in the House.

The CHAIRMAN: All those in favour of the motion?

Mr. HANSELL: Mr. Chairman, I have just this observation to make. It has been suggested that there should be some white on the flag, and if we vote on this motion exactly as it is that would preclude the changing of colours or anything.

The CHAIRMAN: No, I would not think so.

Mr. HANSELL: This motion definitely says that there must be gold on the maple leaf and so on. If the motion could be modified to read, "the Canadian red ensign with a maple leaf", leaving the colour and that sort of thing for another time, we could proceed to discuss the details of the design. I have no objection to a white maple leaf; as a matter of fact, it shows up better.

Mr. BEAUDOIN: Following up the remarks made by Mr. Hansell, I would like to say that it is to a certain extent important that the inclusion of white on



the flag be considered. I have read all the resolutions which have been sent to the committee in favour of either the Canadian red ensign or the union jack, and those resolutions, whether they came from an Orange Lodge, the Sons of England, or the Imperial Daughters of the Empire—I have them all here, but I will not read them to you—say, for instance, that if Canada wants to have a new flag: let us retain the union jack in the place of honour. No word has been said about the rest of the flag; what there should be on the fly or what the colours of the background should be, or anything like that. On the other hand, those who have suggested flags which did not include the union jack have all advocated that white should be the integral part of the flag. The flag proposed by Mr. Blanchette had white in it; the flag proposed by Mr. Savage was the white ensign; and many of the resolutions that have been sent in pleaded in favour of white.

There is also this: I read on page 14 (No. 1) of the proceedings of this committee in the evidence given by Colonel Duguid that the national colours of Canada are white and red. Now, I have this editorial printed in *Action Catholique* on Wednesday, May 15, 1946. I made my own translation of it and I think the editorial should be brought to the attention of the committee:—

If they (French-speaking Canadians) optate today for the white colour and demand it, it is that the tradition seems to establish itself to the effect that in the whole of Canada, white shall be their distinctive colour. In that, their English-speaking fellow citizens select the red colour for the same ends, they do not take offence and are happy to accept it. It is not their lot to impose their views on the subject.

I could quote many instances where white was asked even by members of the Senate and the House of Commons. For instance, I read the speech of Senator Duff which was made on the resolution when it was presented in the Senate. It is found at page 337 of the debates of the Senate, on November 22, 1945. Senator Duff suggests that the Nova Scotian flag might be adopted, and I would like to say that in that flag there is white. The Holman flag which had quite a bit of support in this committee has white on it. Therefore, I think that the inclusion of white in the flag should be considered.

There is another question, and that has to do with the size of the union jack. That the union jack should be included on the flag is now a question which has been decided and I for one will rally to the majority. As you know, I have been supporting the white ensign which won the *La Presse* contest in 1925, ever since the beginning of the sittings of this committee; I have gone with my colleagues in opposition to the Canadian red ensign. Now that the decision of the committee has, apparently, been reached I am pleading for the inclusion of white, and I also want you to put before this committee some remarks which have been made as to the size which the union jack should take. We have heard a lot of remarks to the effect that if the union jack is placed next to the flagstaff in the upper corner it shows that the United Kingdom is supreme over Canada and that Canada has no sovereignty. I am not going to deal with that very much; I have already spoken of that at previous meetings; but if that contention cannot be considered I would like to tell the committee that when General McNaughton left Canada with the first Canadian division a flag was made by Colonel Duguid—

Mr. MACNICOL: A perfect monstrosity.

Mr. BEAUDOIN: I beg your pardon?

Mr. MACNICOL: I said it was a monstrosity.

Mr. BEAUDOIN: I am not discussing your tastes; the fact remains that a flag was made.

Mr. MACNICOL: My tastes suit myself.

The CHAIRMAN: Go ahead, Mr. Beauloin.

Mr. BEAUDOIN: I did not get that. I suppose it is admitted that a flag was made—I have the design here—and some people who have been overseas have seen that flag flown. At any rate, I raised the question before as to the competence of Colonel Duguid as an expert in heraldry, not from any knowledge of my own, but by quoting another person whom I thought had some experience in heraldry, because of the brief he submitted to this committee. I quoted the brief of Mr. Hugh Savage of Duncan, B.C., and in that brief Colonel Duguid's evidence was not considered the best which could have been presented to this committee. I was told then that Mr. Savage was probably wrong and that Colonel Duguid was really an expert in heraldry on whom we could depend. I should like to read to you an article in the *Winnipeg Free Press* of December 26, 1939, about this flag which was designed by Colonel Duguid for General McNaughton. It shows the design here. The title of the article is "Canadian War Flag Heraldically Perfect". This is what it says:—

This is the battle flag of the First Canadian division. It will fly over the headquarters of Major General A. G. McNaughton. It is the work of Colonel A. F. Duguid, chief of the historical section of the National Defence Department.

This battle flag which well may be destined to become the national emblem of Canada was struck off in such haste that there is today but one copy of it in existence—the flag which Major General McNaughton first broke to the breeze from the mast of the ship carrying the headquarters staff across the Atlantic.

Colonel Duguid drew his emblem in haste in order that the First Division should have a flag. One emblem was made from his sketch plans. The measurements were actually modified during its production and the completed flag rushed to the railway siding near Ottawa whence the headquarters staff left for the point of embarkation.

Then follows the official description.

Here is the official description of the emblem. The flag is 12 feet wide and 6 feet deep. In the upper corner, nearest the staff, is the union jack. This jack is  $4\frac{1}{2}$  feet wide and  $2\frac{1}{4}$  feet deep, about one-seventh of the area of the flag. The greatest importance, from the heraldic point of view, attaches to these measurements.

I should like to draw the attention of the members of the committee to this point.

To knights of the Royal College of Heraldry, the size of this canton (the design in the upper corner nearest the staff) means much. If this canton covers an area one-quarter the size of the flag, or more, it means that the flag represents a country which is inferior to the country whose emblem is thus displayed. In terms of the British empire, such a flag would be the flag of a colony, fully dependent upon Britain. Thus the red duster, with the Canadian coat of arms in the fly, is the flag, heraldically speaking, of a colony, not of a self-governing state. Yet this canton is the place of honour in a flag and by putting the union jack there, the Canadian battle flag gives to Britain the highest honour possible in heraldry.

It goes on:—

In the upper corner, farthest from the staff, is a blue circle 2 feet 3 inches in diameter containing three fleur-de-lis.



I think I can leave out this part. Then I come back to another passage in which the matter of the size of the jack is discussed. It says further on:—

From a heraldic point of view it is declared to be perfect. By reducing the area of the union jack, by making the maple leaves the dominant figures, the flag is a truly Canadian emblem. Experts in heraldry declare there will be the utmost satisfaction with this new flag in Britain. It has been wrong for Canada to fly the union jack, equally for Canada to fly an emblem in which the union jack occupied a quarter of the space of the flag.

Then it goes on about other countries and other considerations:—

The point which is raised there is that if the union jack occupies one-quarter of the flag it means subservience and if it is only one-seventh then it is all right.

Mr. HARRIS: Whose authority is that?

Mr. BEAUDOIN: I think we should get in touch with the *Winnipeg Free Press* and find out. I presume it is the authority of Colonel Duguid.

Mr. HARRIS: Who is quoted, anybody, or is it the reporter writing?

Mr. BEAUDOIN: It is an article which is written under the authority of the *Winnipeg Free Press*. I do not know who wrote it, but the article contains these details about the size of the union jack. I presume that before it was published in a newspaper of the importance of the *Winnipeg Free Press* somebody must have looked into the matter. He does not whisper it. He says it twice and he explains the details, and so on, and refers to the name of Colonel Duguid who has designed the flag. Therefore I am positive that whoever may be in favour of a flag containing the union jack on this committee they certainly do not wish to show on that flag that Canada is not the equal constitutionally to other nations of the commonwealth. If what I have read there is correct then I put the question to you, should the union jack be one-quarter or only one-seventh of the flag?

Mr. SMITH: I have not had much part in our discussions, but I want to go a long way with Mr. Beaudoin. I assumed from something I heard here that when we came down to the end of the road or near the end of the road there would be room for perhaps alterations in the colour, and I thought we were going to consult heralds. The matter Mr. Beaudoin speaks of now I think is probably a matter of heraldry. The flag I have in mind has the union jack and a maple leaf, and I have always had in mind on a white background. I think it is an infinitely better looking flag.

Mr. MACNICOL: You mean the maple leaf on a white background?

Mr. SMITH: The maple leaf on a white background, the fly of the flag, if you like, all white which would be an infinitely better looking flag. I assumed if we brought to parliament this particular design of ours that changes like that could be made, and I assure Mr. Beaudoin that when it does go to the House of Commons I shall follow him on his white background, and if the union jack is of a size which heraldry tells me makes us subservient then I will follow him there, too. What I think we should do is to get something back to the House of Commons and Senate, or shall I say back to our various resting places. Let us put it that way. That is the place where these things should be finished. I want to give you my word, Mr. Chairman, and Mr. Beaudoin that I follow him in everything he said.

Mr. HARRIS: May I come back to something Mr. Beaudoin has said in the past? He has always been in favour of white on the flag, and it is quite an understandable position to take, but you must remember that we are adopting a national flag and that national flag will have many variations. We will have

a flag for men of war, our air force, our army, various consular offices and the like. In all the commonwealth nations, at any rate, white has always been recognized as the distinctive flag of the royal navy. Consequently it is more than likely that the Royal Canadian Navy would like to use a white background on their flag presumably with the present Canadian ensign.

Beginning with that may I say that your subcommittee considered a great many variations of the type of flag Mr. Beaudoin has on his desk. If you put white on the extreme right hand part of the flag, that is, all white—

Mr. BEAUDOIN: All what?

Mr. HARRIS: If you put the right hand half of the flag in white—

Mr. MACNICOL: The field.

Mr. HARRIS: The field, if you will, you will find you are not satisfied with it at all from an aesthetic viewpoint. If you cut down the size of the white from half of the flag you will then get into one of two positions such as a disc which you have there at the present moment.

Mr. BEAUDOIN: You mean this one?

Mr. HARRIS: That one, or a shield. I should like to make some observations on those two points plus the question of the Union Jack and the size. Let me at once point out what I did in the discussion a moment ago, that the article quoted there gives no person as authority for the statement that a Union Jack at one-quarter of the size shows dominance. Let me to the contrary quote Colonel Duguid when he was giving his evidence here. He said this of the canton:—

The canton is a means for conveying a secondary message or preconcerted signal, in expansion of the primary or main signal message transmitted by the flag as a whole.

He goes on to give an illustration of the use of the canton by sailors in France putting in the canton the insignia of the port from which they sailed on the royal flag. That is a statement from the only man we have got as an expert.

Mr. BEAUDOIN: May I interrupt for one moment? Why did Colonel Duguid make a flag with the Union Jack in the corner which was of the size of one-seventh?

Mr. HARRIS: I shall tell you that in a moment if you will wait. If you will observe the flag in front of Mr. Beaudoin you will see a circle. On that we also have Colonel Duguid, and on that point Colonel Duguid is also very clear.

The circle, disc, or roundle placed on a flag provides a means of conveying a subsidiary message or preconcerted signal in expansion of the main or primary signal.

On the basis of Colonel Duguid's evidence before us what Mr. Beaudoin has said is directly opposite to his evidence. Colonel Duguid's evidence is that the canton is not the supreme position but that the circle is, and therefore the flag in the design you have in front of you, assuming that it is what I see, puts the maple leaf in a subsidiary and secondary position on the basis of this. If you care to look at the evidence it is on page 20.

Mr. BEAUDOIN: I may say right now if you want to move the Union Jack and put the maple leaf there I do not object.

Mr. HARRIS: I quite agree that you would not, but I want to have the matter clear, because we have always had that argument in front of us that the upper left hand corner shows supremacy and the lower right shows otherwise. However, let us get down to the immediate issue in front of us. That is, are you going to put white on the flag, and if so where and in what quantity? As I say, there are only four possible ways of dividing the flag which, as you will see



in any design you may have drawn—and I have a lot here—will not look good in any form. The second is a disc which Colonel Duguid says is wrong. The third is a shield which is a possibility. There seems to be nothing against it. The fourth is to frame the maple leaf with a small edging of white which might set it out more than it does otherwise. That is your choice. As Mr. Smith has said that seems to be a matter for parliament to decide if we so recommend, and whether or not we recommend, but if we are going to debate here for any length of time various ways of putting white on the flag I suggest that we start with a definite recommendation.

At the beginning of our discussion Mr. Beaudoin somewhat criticized the subcommittee on the grounds we had not made known the various compromises which we considered, and so on. I may say that putting the maple leaf on a disc or on a shield or framing it in white was considered by us.

MR. BEAUDOIN: It was not a criticism. It was just a statement of fact.

MR. HARRIS: I know. No one, until Mr. Beaudoin has spoken here, has stated that white on the flag would be acceptable to those who oppose the Union Jack, as a means of accepting the Union Jack. There are many people who think white ought to be on that flag in some form, but remember that our deliberations were for the purpose of finding a compromise between the two views. It was not to find something else to put on the flag other than what we had in front of us. Perhaps those of us from Ontario might share Mr. Macdonnell's surprise, but it is fair to make it perfectly clear that no one from the province of Quebec has at any time in this committee recommended that the fleur-de-lis be on the flag, and until Mr. Beaudoin supported the white and has now spoken for the white no one put that forward as an expression of the opinion of the province of Quebec.

MR. BEAUDOIN: I should like to interrupt you again. I should like to say that when the first motion was put on the table I declared my intention to vote for the amendment because it had white in it, and the Canadian red ensign had no white.

MR. HARRIS: I am sure I made that quite plain when I said you had spoken about it before as well as now.

MR. BEAUDOIN: That could not have meant that we who represent the French speaking Canadians on the committee who were opposing the Union Jack would have bargained to accept the Union Jack provided the Union Jack supporters accepted the white.

MR. HARRIS: That is the exact problem the subcommittee had to consider, and it was not as suggested that the French Canadian members who are opposing the Union Jack would accept it if white went on the flag. Now then, we have before us an amendment and the main motion. I am wondering if we can come to a decision on it or whether the committee desires to add an expression in favour of white or whether you wish to pick out the type of white you want on the flag. There are your three alternatives.

MR. MACNICOL: It will be observed by looking at the flags that have been selected all around the commonwealth that quite a large number of them have something on a white shield. I discussed the matter with Mr. Beaudoin myself quite a while ago and suggested to him that he make a motion that a maple leaf, of whatever colour is selected, be placed on a white shield. A circle would be out of order because it is against the laws of heraldry to have a circle on a rectangle or square, but either a rectangle or square would be quite all right on a flag such as we have today. Therefore I will still tell Mr. Beaudoin that as far as I am concerned I would support the maple leaf on a white shield because that is in conformity with many of the flags that the commonwealth now has. I do not see any objection to it. I am surprised it was not done earlier. I did

not want to do it myself having suggested to Mr. Beaudoin that he do it. I wish he had done it before. If he does it now I will be glad to second that the maple leaf go on a white shield on the red field.

White itself would not do for a land flag. My hon. friend from Calgary suggested white. The field of white has not been a land flag. In the commonwealth red has always been the land flag from the very first inception of flags in the English period. The way it came about was that in the beginning there were no flags such as are used today. The early English people did not have a flag, but they did have French kings and their French kings led them in the Crusades. Having no flag at the time of the Crusades, the sailors on approaching shore, to show they were Christians, would raise their jackets on a lance or pole, on the back of which was a red cross. From that came the word "jack". It is not the English word "jack". It came from the French word for "jack" or "jacket".

When they landed at a port the sailors would take their jackets off upon which was the red cross on the back, and that was held up when they landed. Later on following Henry the Eighth, Edward the Sixth, Mary, Elizabeth and Charles, but principally in Charles the First's reign, they commenced using a red field with the jack up in the corner next the staff which was St. George's cross. That was their first land flag as far as I can ascertain. Red has always been the field of the land flag with the British.

As the chairman pointed out we will have to have several flags. The naval flag would have a white field. I certainly would support that because it sounds like common sense to me. The naval flag being white the merchant marine flag would be red field and the government marine flag would be blue. That is the uniform custom throughout the commonwealth, so that I do not see we are any distance apart now. As to the naval flag the whole field would be white with the crosses or jack in the upper left hand corner, and a maple leaf of some colour on the white shield. Then there would be the merchant marine flag. The land flag would be red with the jack next the staff on top. Red is the land colour. My hon. friend or his friends might be satisfied with what they are using on several empire flags. I wish I had brought some with me. They are using in many parts of the empire the red field with their choice of distinction on a white shield, not a circle. A circle is out of place on a rectangular or square flag. If you would suggest a white shield, or whatever you like to call it, behind a suitable colour of maple leaf I think we might achieve harmony. As far as the colour of the leaf goes I do not think we have settled that. That is a matter of detail.

Mr. BEAUDOIN: May I interject? As far as the place where the white should be I think it should be left to someone who knows much more than I do as to the disposition of the elements on the flag.

Mr. MacNICOL: I should not say all Crown colonies but a great majority are using a white shield behind their coat of arms which they have put on that red field.

Mr. BEAUDOIN: I would put it in whatever place it is suitable to add up the white. I did not want to make it a formal motion because I wanted to hear the members of the committee say what they might have to suggest as to this inclusion of white. But it would be very easy, if it were in order to do so, to move an amendment. As I understand it, the main motion says that we recommend the Canadian ensign, replacing the coat of arms with a maple leaf.

The CHAIRMAN: With the maple leaf.

Mr. BEAUDOIN: And take up white on the background.

Mr. MacNICOL: You move an amendment to have a white shield?



Mr. BEAUDOIN: If it is in order to do so. I would not say a white shield or a white this or a white that. I suppose the experts or somebody will finally build up the flag with the main elements which the committee gives them. If it is in order to do so, I move that.

Mr. MACDONNELL: I should like to say one word in addition to what I said before. If Mr. Beaudoin's suggestion offers a new hope of giving something which at least will be reasonably satisfactory, I think we should go all the distance that we can. I would not be too exclusively influenced by the heavy hand of heraldry, because not many of us know much about it. Incidentally, may I express my admiration of the knowledge which your joint chairman has acquired; I was greatly impressed by what he told us. But I do feel that if we can find a way, we should do it. If the inclusion of white is going to make this more palatable to our colleagues of the French language, I think we should go a long way. I am wondering this, and it is only a practical suggestion. I wonder, with this before us, whether maybe there should not be some further consideration given to the actual flag which we are to recommend. I realize that what is said of the navy and white and so on. But to me the importance of getting a flag which will as far as possible satisfy our fellow countrymen of the French language far outweighs everything else.

Mr. MATTHEWS: I wanted to ask Mr. Beaudoin if the flag which he suggested is a counterpart of the design that was published by *La Presse* some years ago, and sponsored by six or eight gentlemen who I believe were posing as flag authorities—I would not say experts. It would seem to be very much the same and these men sponsored it as forming a proper design that should be on a flag of that kind. I wondered if it was the same. I want to say that I am very much pleased at the progress which has been made here today and to say further that I appreciate as one member of this committee the very fine spirit that has been displayed by a number of men who, at first at all events, were of diametrically opposite views. In all of the discussions there has been courtesy as between one member and another. I think it highly commendable. I should like Mr. Beaudoin to answer that question.

Mr. BEAUDOIN: If I am permitted to answer, I should like to say that this flag is not a counterpart of the *La Presse* design of 1925.

Mr. MATTHEWS: You remember the one I mean?

Mr. BEAUDOIN: The *La Presse* design of 1925 was on a complete white background. It had a green maple leaf and a union jack on it in the upper corner. Apart from the discussion which has taken place on the union jack question, the combination of white and red has always been advocated. Therefore this is not a counterpart. It is one way of bringing in some white. There are certainly other ways which might be very suitable. As Mr. Macdonnell said, we do not have to follow too much the letter of heraldry experts. But I believe that white should be there and I do thank all the members of the committee who have assured me of their co-operation along that line.

Mr. MACNICOL: Would you be satisfied, Mr. Beaudoin, as I remarked a few moments ago, with the general flag that is common in many parts of the commonwealth with a square, a rectangle or whatever is most suitable behind the maple leaf on the red ensign, as long as there is white behind the maple leaf? I think everybody would be in favour of that.

Mr. BEAUDOIN: I do not know exactly how it could be arranged. I suggested this way, but it might be done in another way. Before I say that I am satisfied with the way you are suggesting, I should like to see some sort of miniature design made and I should like to look at it. I should like to hear some expression from the members of the committee on this matter of the quarter and one-seventh of the jack besides what Mr. Harris has told us.

Mr. HARRIS: Thank you, Mr. Beaudoin. I meant to make that a little clearer. As far as I am concerned, I thought the thing was settled by Colonel

Duguid who specifically pointed out the canton as being the superior place. Nothing I have ever seen in writing has said otherwise. Yours is the first article that I have ever heard to the contrary. In any event, Colonel Duguid has submitted many designs to various members of this committee and particularly to the subcommittee, with the Union Jack less than one-quarter the size of the flag. When you look at it, I would respectfully suggest to you that the thing looks so lopsided as to throw the whole flag off, regardless of the legal argument against it. It is just not a possibility. If you see any of them in that fashion, you will have to do exactly what Mr. Beaudoin has done in his samples. You will have to increase the size of the maple leaf or the disc around it or the shield to quite a large size in order to offset the balance that you lose. May I point out again to the committee these designs have been in front of the subcommittee and various members before. There is your white shield with the maple leaf of a very large size. I think you will agree with me that that flag would not look good.

Mr. BEAUDOIN: Unless you reduce the size of the union jack.

Mr. HARRIS: Quite so. If you reduce the size of the union jack it would look even worse.

Mr. BEAUDOIN: I do not think it looks too bad, to my way of thinking.

Mr. HARRIS: Well, I did not want to get into an argument on details. I am using these samples, not by way of argument, but as illustrations. There is the other one with the maple leaf framed in white, as I indicated to you before. There is another one the same. There is a smaller shield with the red maple leaf in the centre, and I think that somewhere about that size it does not throw your flag out of proportion and yet it must be about that size with the maple leaf to be seen in any form. Here is a slightly smaller variation of that one. There is one without the white behind it at all. There is one much smaller, but we have gone through all these.

Mr. BEAUDOIN: May I ask if you have had any opinion as to the visibility at a distance of a flag with a maple leaf on a white shield?

Mr. HARRIS: No, we have not; no more than any other. But may I point out the position we have reached in the committee? If this resolution is carried, you will see that we have not chosen a Canadian flag. We have chosen a design for one. We have not stated the proportions of the various components. Therefore some other person or body is going to take up the task where we leave it off. I am quite sure that this committee is not the place to lay down that the maple leaf will be 1½ inches wide in proportion to something else, and so on; and I point out that if this resolution was carried in its present form you would not have a Canadian flag until action was taken by the governor in council and the experts who make flags over there in the department. If you leave it in that fashion and if the government is advised of our opinions about the white, it may very well be that they will frame the maple leaf in that fashion or in that fashion (indicating). I do not want you to think that the motion in its present form would eliminate either of those possibilities. Looking at it, as you see it, I am quite sure this committee would divide about equally as to the choice. I do not think we should come down to something that we cannot be of a decided opinion about. Knowing, as I say, that some members would like white and others would not, I feel perhaps it is better to leave this motion the way it is, which merely says that our flag shall be the Canadian red ensign with a golden maple leaf, and then leave the matter at that point for others to work on as to a final determination. Because if we try to do that, I respectfully suggest we will not get a decision this session.

The CHAIRMAN: I might point out to Mr. Beaudoin, supplementing what Mr. Harris has said, that the passing of this resolution would have to be accompanied by a report to parliament; and I think in that report the points which you



have been making clear should be expressed without any question of doubt at all.

Mr. HACKETT: Mr. Chairman, I have been a very faithful attendant of your committee and I think this is my maiden speech in it. You have exercised, Mr. Chairman, a measure of patience which I think is commendable. Something has been said about the manner in which men who have been profoundly moved have deported themselves toward others. I dislike to admit failure. We have been appointed, and the government has determined that a design for a distinctive national flag should be forthcoming. I point out to the committee that a design which is not acceptable to 30 per cent of the population of Canada, no matter how frequently it may receive the endorsement of parliament, cannot be a national flag. I have great respect for tradition. I have respect for the little tradition with which I am familiar and a great deal of respect for the tradition of which I know nothing. Among the things of which I know nothing is heraldry. But I do not want the dead hand of heraldry to paralyse the very living thing here. We are attempting to find a common denominator; and if it can be found within the boundaries of heraldry, so much the better. But if we have to do some violence to heraldry or if we can find, by violating heraldry, a common denominator of goodwill that will enable everyone to take off his hat to the flag, then we will have achieved something. I am going to ask you, Mr. Chairman, knowing the patience and goodwill that you have shown throughout the lengthy session, not to attempt to bring this thing to an issue today. I believe there is a germ of goodwill. I believe that there is still a hope that we may find, if we continue our search, something to which all men may rally. I am going to ask you, and I will move it if I am in order, that we continue our deliberations for at least another session and that a group—I will not attempt to pick it—of those who have entertained varying opinions, be named to see what can be done. Strange as it may seem, many of my intimate friends are among those whose opinion I do not share, but I know they are men of goodwill. I should like to explore and exploit every possibility of finding something that the people can accept before we throw this report into the maelstrom of the House of Commons. It will mean there a series of heated speeches; and I am not certain that when we reach the end of those speeches we will be any nearer finding a national flag in the true sense of the word.

Mr. BEAUDOIN: I should like to second the motion which has just been made by Mr. Hackett. I understand that in any event another meeting will be necessary in order to make up the report. At any rate, all you have said about mentioning in the report the expressions of the members of the committee as to the inclusion of white in the background of the flag is satisfactory, as far as I am concerned. I do not feel I need to make a formal motion. I still insist on this size of the union jack. I should like members of the committee to give it thought. What surprises me is that in this article, which certainly was not written by irresponsible people, it says:

To knights of the Royal College of Heraldry, the size of this canton means much. If this canton covers an area one-quarter the size of the flag, or more, it means that the flag represents a country which is inferior to the country whose emblem is thus displayed.

If I put this question to the committee, no matter how much you were in favour of the union jack, I am positive that none of you would say that you would want it if it means subservience, that it would mean that this country is an inferior nation. I understand Mr. Macdonnell agrees with me. Therefore it is very important that this distinction as to the size should be looked up. If it means subservience by having it one-quarter, then I say it should be moved to one-seventh, and I suggest everybody will agree with me on that.

Some Hon. MEMBERS: Hear, hear.

The CHAIRMAN: Following out the suggestions that been made, would it meet the views of the committee if we call adjournment now, to meet tomorrow morning at 11 o'clock? Is that agreeable?

Mr. REID: But there are so many other committees meeting tomorrow, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. BEAUDOIN: I should like to say that there is an important meeting of the Radio Committee tomorrow on which sit many members of this committee. I do not suppose it is possible for us to sit. I am told there are five committees sitting tomorrow.

Mr. HACKETT: That would afford no opportunity for my suggestion, if it had any validity, to operate. I have suggested to you, Mr. Chairman, the selection of another subcommittee in an effort to explore this particular phase which has come to the fore this afternoon. I am very hopeful that you will find it possible to present the motion to the committee, then get the subcommittee and see if we cannot find a way out.

Mr. HARRIS: These very designs, I might say again, were considered by the subcommittee. There has been no suggestion made this afternoon which was not considered by the subcommittee. I did not say it was rejected for the very reason that I think the present resolution does not exclude the white.

Mr. HACKETT: Let us say we are going to make another little effort.

Mr. HARRIS: May I finish what I was saying? I see, however, no reason why a subcommittee or another one should not meet to discuss the situation again with respect to a white background and so on. But may I say, in answer to Mr. Beaudoin, that there is no question at all that every day from now till the end of the session will be taken up by meetings of committees. May I also point out that it is almost the seventh week since we met and that we have stayed out of the way of those committees in that time. During that time we have had the opportunity to consider the very thing which has come up today. I do urge members to sit. I know it is difficult because there may be other committees they would rather attend than this one; but if we put it off until Friday one-third of our members will have gone and there will still be meetings on Friday of other committees. If you want to adjourn until 4 o'clock tomorrow afternoon, well and good.

Mr. BEAUDOIN: How about tomorrow night?

Mr. HACKETT: If there is any virtue at all in my suggestion and if my motion is carried, the subcommittee which would be named would hardly have time between now and tomorrow, even between now and any day this week, to do the work which I sincerely hope they may achieve.

Mr. HARRIS: There are just two things in your motion: first, to consider the proposal of Mr. Beaudoin (a) whether the union jack should be less than one-quarter, and (b) whether there should be white on the flag in some form. Is there any other feature?

Mr. HACKETT: There is nothing that I have at present in my mind, but I was hoping that we would not have to limit the committee to rigid terms. If somebody should have enough ingenuity or the good fortune or the inspiration to find something around which everybody could rally I would hate to think that would be barred by the chairman.

Mr. HARRIS: It would not be barred, and I am sure that every member of this committee has been trying to find a solution since November last.

Mr. MACDONNELL: I think the joint chairman said it was only this afternoon that he had realized that the point brought up by Mr. Beaudoin might take us farther from a solution. Did I misunderstand you?



Mr. HARRIS: Oh, yes.

Mr. MACDONNELL: Let me finish. May I say with respect that I fear that still the joint chairman, Mr. Harris, is perhaps regarding the scope of this consideration somewhat more narrowly than I had hoped it would be regarded. I feel as Mr. Hackett does. To do as Mr. Harris suggests, this new suggestion will not be given the consideration which I had hoped this matter might justify. It gives the committee a chance to work again, which is so important. I do not care whether the matter is dealt with at this session of parliament. I think we should give the committee all the time that is necessary.

Hon. Mr. STIRLING: Let me emphasize on behalf of the subcommittee that the idea of the white background on the maple leaf is not new. The subcommittee at each of its meetings gave a great deal of consideration to it, and I am not at all sure that the members of the subcommittee were not unanimously in favour of a white background to the leaf. I know I am. I have felt all the way through that after choosing the maple leaf as Canada's emblem, after adopting the union jack to designate that Canada is a member of the commonwealth of nations, that then we want to place the maple leaf on that flag in such a way, whether it flies here or in the Caribbean Sea, so that the first thought of the sailor who sees it is that it is Canada's flag, and he will do it much more probably if the maple leaf is on a white background of some description on the field of the flag. Now, the wording of this motion does not preclude white being adopted, it does not preclude a decision being given by those whom we believe to be experts as to the size that should be adopted for the union jack; it does nothing except assert that the design that should be chosen shall be the red ensign with the autumnal coloured maple leaf as the emblem. I really do not see how a further meeting of a subcommittee can get us any further. From the very first meeting—no, I think it was the second meeting of this committee—the view was advanced and accepted that toward the end of the consideration given by this committee the design chosen should be submitted to those who are believed to be experts—not that they should make the decision but that they should advise us; and it appears to me that this motion might well be adopted and that we should then report to our respective houses just that much: that the flag shall be the red ensign and that it shall carry a maple leaf with autumnal colours.

Mr. BEAUDOIN: Throughout his remarks Mr. Stirling seemed to be looking at me as though I had been the one who moved the motion. I have already said that I am satisfied with the remarks made by the chairman to the effect that the inclusion of white be considered in the report made to the House. Now, following your remarks, I should like to ask if I may understand that should the Union Jack be of one-quarter or of one-seventh, whether it means inferiority or not, that you would favour a one-quarter size or a one-seventh, like Mr. Macdonnell?

Hon. Mr. STIRLING: Not being a heraldry artist, I would not limit myself to what size the Union Jack should be.

Mr. BEAUDOIN: If it shows subservience you would not be in favour?

Hon. Mr. STIRLING: If it is proved to my satisfaction that a quarter of the flag being given up to the Union Jack would mean subservience then I want a smaller Union Jack.

The CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, I feel very definitely that we owe a real debt of gratitude to Mr. Beaudoin for bringing these matters to a head and impressing everybody around this table that we have reached the point where we can agree on a pretty satisfactory recommendation to parliament. Now, I am speaking wishfully, of course, but I would appeal to you strongly not to allow this meeting to break up to-day without sealing that feeling in the form

of this resolution. With all due deference to my friend Mr. Hackett, I have been watching this discussion from time to time with the idea of reaching the point where we could finally make a report to parliament, and I feel a sort of frustration when that moment is reached and there is the suggestion that we should push it away a little while longer. I think the time is ripe today, this afternoon, to pass that resolution. I am quite satisfied that the detailed points which Mr. Beaudoin has so ably presented here will be adequately taken care of in the report which Mr. Harris and I shall have to make as a matter of duty, and then leave to the larger body of parliament, plus the Governor in Council, the responsibility for actually working out in a finished form the design that we recommend to-day. I do not wish to press the committee unduly; it is your duty to advise me what to do, but I do believe that psychologically we have reached a very important point.

MR. CASTLEDEN: Speaking to the motion, I believe that the most important thing in making our decision is that we have a flag which the Canadian people to a large degree across this country will agree upon. I feel now, as the result of the vote which has already been taken, that if a vote is taken this afternoon without further consideration being given to the main motion, we may not reach that unanimity. It seems to me that the motion made by Mr. Hackett opens the door of opportunity for those people who are somewhat opposed this afternoon to getting together but who in the next few days might agree to support a flag so long as they are assured that some of that white background is there. I support the motion, and I think it is time to ask for a vote.

MR. HARRIS: If this committee votes this afternoon and makes a decision, would not it be making that decision on the understanding that the report being made to parliament would include such things as this, that the committee is not in favour of the Union Jack being a quarter of the size of the flag if the rules of heraldry suggest that indicates subservience; and also the committee has considered the question of the white background, and the report should indicate the ideas expressed so that by voting this afternoon and making a complete report we can reach agreement and present our report to parliament as soon as possible.

MR. RUD: I want to say a word in regard to Mr. Beaudoin's remarks. I am glad he brought the matter up as he did. I want to say to him, as one who was born in the Old Land, that if the Union Jack were interpreted as a mark of dominance I for one would certainly not support it. I take the position, along with those born in the province of Quebec, that I am just as good a Canadian as anyone else, and I believe that the Old Country has no dominance over this land at all. I want to place myself on record as holding that view and I for one would support white on the flag.

MR. HARRIS: Let us get this matter settled if we can. I do not fear any investigation about this question of one-quarter meaning dominance, because it has been on our flag since Confederation, and I am sure that during all that time someone more acutely aware of the problem than some anonymous writer in the *Winnipeg Free Press* would have brought the matter up in parliament.

MR. BEAUDOIN: If you read the article written by Mr. Blair Fraser you will see that some people have not taken much interest in the flag because they have permitted the switching over from the red ensign to the Union Jack.

MR. HARRIS: You have missed my point. The Canadian ensign with the Union Jack of one-quarter has been in existence since confederation, and to this moment no exception has been taken in so far as the Union Jack and its size is concerned. The motion does not exclude anything in the way of white.

MR. CASTLEDEN: Nor does it include it.



Mr. HARRIS: Nor does it include it, true; but surely we can get this motion passed this afternoon with the concurrence of Mr. Beaudoin who has the assurance of the chairman that we will come back to this committee with a report for your approval, and that included in that report, no doubt, will be a consideration of the question of white. We are only quarrelling about that at the moment, as I see it. We can settle these matters between now and the next meeting of our committee, at which time you will be presented with a report based on this resolution, and if you do not like the report you can leave it, but that report will have both features covered—white and the Union Jack—so why not pass the resolution now subject to that later discussion?

Mr. BEAUDOIN: Why not treat the entire subject of whatever is concerned in the main motion in the report?

Mr. HARRIS: I think it is only fair to pass the main motion and it will be the basis for our report.

Mr. MACDONNELL: Do you mean that there will be some white behind the maple leaf?

Mr. HARRIS: No, no, the main report does not touch on the controversial subject of white, which will be included.

Hon. Mr. STIRLING: You mean the main motion?

Mr. HARRIS: Yes.

Mr. MACDONNELL: I think we ought to give a little thought to this. It seems in one way perfectly logical to say—and I have been arguing with myself—that the two things are simply tweedledum and tweedledee, whether we pass the resolution now and then proceed to consider the other points outstanding in the report, or whether we pass Mr. Hackett's resolution and defer debate until these points are considered. Someone may say it is a case of tweedledum and tweedledee, but I do not think it is. If we pass this resolution now, the publicity which it will get will create the impression in the public mind that the matter is settled, and it will be difficult to explain that the matter is not settled, is not concluded, but that we are going to consider the points raised by Mr. Beaudoin.

On the other hand, let me suggest this: the committee's point of view—I may say Mr. Harris' point of view—is that they want this settled. I do suggest that if there is anything in this point I have made really it does not matter to them substantially whether these points which we are considering now should be considered before this resolution is passed or whether the resolution should be passed first and they are put into the report. On the whole, I still feel that Mr. Hackett has the right idea.

Hon. Mr. STIRLING: With all the gentlemen of the press here I cannot bring myself to believe that any faulty publicity will go out of this committee. It surely will be explained by them that even if the main motion is passed the matter will be considered further.

Hon. Mr. GOUX: May I make a few short remarks? I think we have displayed all through a very commendable spirit of friendship. I wish to thank all those who have spoken before me and who have proved very clearly their good will in particular to the racial element to which I have the honour to belong. I wanted a purely Canadian flag, but I have always spoken with the greatest respect of the Union Jack and, of course, you all know of my own love for the fleur-de-lis.

We wanted a purely distinctive Canadian flag, but in a democracy we abide by the decision of the majority. I want to say that the majority this afternoon has proved their good will to us very clearly. Under those circumstances I will say at once that I am ready myself to vote on the main motion understanding—and I think that the Canadian public will understand it—that if the motion

is adopted that does not preclude further investigation being made along the lines which have been so clearly and so eloquently explained before I spoke.

Hon. Mr. WHITE: Before you put the motion do I understand that the committee will meet to-morrow morning?

Mr. HARRIS: That is not fixed yet.

The CHAIRMAN: No.

Hon. Mr. WHITE: I was going to say if that is so there are some of us who came here specially for the meeting to-day and did not come prepared to stay.

The CHAIRMAN: It was a suggestion which I made, and nothing was done about it, so there is nothing more on that. Mr. Hackett has moved a resolution which I am bound to present to you. It is that the main motion be not put now but that the whole question of the design of the flag be referred to the subcommittee for further consideration and that the subcommittee should come back to a future meeting and report. I think that is the substance of your motion. I will have to ask you to express your feeling about Mr. Hackett's motion as to whether or not you are in favour of it. All those in favour of Mr. Hackett's resolution?

Mr. MacNICOL: Just what does he mean by that?

The CHAIRMAN: It means deferring judgment on the main motion and referring it for another indefinite period to the subcommittee. Twelve. All those opposed? Nine. Mr. Hackett's motion is carried twelve to nine. That precludes the necessity of mentioning the first motion. Just a moment before we adjourn; I think it is only fair to the subcommittee that some concrete suggestion should be made by those who want further consideration given as to what it should do, when it should meet and when you want to meet again.

Mr. MacNICOL: Mr. Chairman, if I might express my opinion I would suggest that the subcommittee bring in a report recommending the red ensign with the maple leaf placed on a white background on the red fly.

The CHAIRMAN: Have you any ideas to suggest, Mr. Hackett? Have you anything definite to suggest?

Mr. HACKETT: The only suggestion I was contemplating making was whether the subcommittee would feel that any additional members added to their number might facilitate their work.

The CHAIRMAN: Would you empower the subcommittee to add to its personnel?

Mr. MacNICOL: Yes.

The CHAIRMAN: We are limited in that connection by the fact that the Senate at the moment is not meeting, other than those of its members who are here.

Mr. HACKETT: Some have come here from a great distance just to be here to-day.

The CHAIRMAN: That is true, but there are others who are engaged on committee work during the interval and are available so that we really are limited to that personnel from the Senate.

Mr. HACKETT: Might I suggest the name of Mr. J. M. Macdonnell, although I know that is for the committee to determine.

The CHAIRMAN: All right, we will take that.

Mr. HARRIS: May I suggest that the subcommittee meet to-morrow at 2 o'clock, and in the meantime the additional members of the subcommittee will be notified. Are you content to leave that to the chairman?

The committee adjourned to meet again at the call of the chair.



## MINUTES OF EVIDENCE

HOUSE OF COMMONS,

July 11, 1946.

The Joint Special Committee of the Senate and the House of Commons, appointed to consider and report upon a suitable design for a distinctive national flag for Canada, met this day at 7.30 o'clock p.m. Mr. W. E. Harris, (Chairman of the House of Commons section), presided.

The CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, perhaps we are not all here but if you will come to order we will go on because most of you want to leave by 8 o'clock. In the first place I should like to have Senator Lambert present the report of the subcommittee meeting which was held at 2 o'clock this afternoon.

Hon. Mr. LAMBERT: Following the instructions of the committee at the conclusion of the last meeting yesterday an enlarged subcommittee representing twelve members met this afternoon and adopted the following resolution unanimously!

That this committee recommend that the national flag of Canada should be the Canadian red ensign with a maple leaf in autumn golden colors in a bordered background of white replacing the coat-of-arms in the fly, the whole design to be so proportioned that the size and position of the maple leaf in relation to the Union Jack in the canton will identify it as a symbol distinctive of Canada as a nation.

I respectfully submit that report.

Mr. McIVOR: Would you mind reading it again a little louder?

Hon. Mr. LAMBERT:—

That this committee recommend that the national flag of Canada should be the Canadian red ensign with a maple leaf in autumn golden colors in a bordered background of white replacing the coat-of-arms in the fly, the whole design to be so proportioned that the size and position of the maple leaf in relation to the Union Jack in the canton will identify it as a symbol distinctive of Canada as a nation.

The CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, complementary to that is a letter of explanation which I have here from Colonel Duguid as the result of the discussion yesterday in the committee. I will put it on the record. The letter covers the flag which Mr. Beaudoin mentioned yesterday. I do not think I need read that. It is simply a statement of the history of the flag that Colonel Duguid designed for the First Canadian Army and is not really germane to our discussion, but this part of it is. This is a discussion of the relative use of the quarter and the canton. I had better read it in full because I think we can do it in the time we have.

A quarter is an area of the shield made by dividing or partitioning the shield into four equal parts by one vertical and one horizontal line.

The device in the first quarter of a shield is considered to be senior or most important: it is an inherent component part of the whole coat.

A flag having the first quarter occupied by the union jack is dominated by the union jack and is essentially a modified or "defaced" British ensign.

When a coat (such as the union) is placed in an upper corner, in an area less than a quarter, that coat is said to be in a canton. Such a coat or device is an addition placed on the shield in amplification or augmentation of the main coat, which is that personal to the bearer. The canton is not an inherent part of the coat.

A quarter carries a primary message, a canton carries a secondary message. Thus a flag with the Union Jack in the first quarter and the device of Canada in the fly gives the message: Britain (Canada).

A flag with the national symbol of Canada occupying the whole of the field and the Union Jack in canton reads: Canada (member of the British Commonwealth of Nations).

The Oxford dictionary gives: "Canton—square division less than a quarter in upper corner of shield." Fox-Davies in "The Art of Heraldry" states: "The Canton is supposed to occupy one-third of the chief, and that being supposed to occupy one-third of the field, a simple arithmetical sum gives us one-ninth of the field as the theoretical area of the canton... Theoretically the canton is supposed to be always a later addition to the coat." Illustrations in "The Art of Heraldry" often show the canton less than one-ninth; the same authority states: "The diminutive of the quarter is the canton".

That is all of the letter, and in very brief explanation he puts it this way, that we are discussing the Canadian red ensign which was a British flag, when it was the red ensign, and that British flags all have the quarter consisting of the union jack, that when we as a committee are about to set up a distinctive Canadian flag we put the symbol of Canada on flag fly and then if we desire to add the Union Jack as an augmentation we do so by putting it in the canton, and that canton is necessarily less than one-quarter and more than one-ninth. While the method of deciding the question in the article in the *Winnipeg Free Press* may be wrong the conclusion was right and the actual result is that if we put the Union Jack in the canton it will not be one-quarter of the flag. How much less than that is a matter which we may not go into, but the resolution before you specifically places the Union Jack in the canton, which means it is an augmentation, which means it shall be less than one-quarter of the flag. Are there any questions on that before we proceed?

MR. SMITH: Is the report unanimous?

HON. MR. LAMBERT: The report is unanimous.

MR. SMITH: I will move its adoption.

MR. HERRIDGE: I will second that.

THE CHAIRMAN: All in favour?

MR. LACROIX: I ask for a recorded vote on that, please.

THE CHAIRMAN: Just a moment, all in favour of adopting that report raise your right hands? Opposed? The motion is carried.

MR. GLADSTONE, are you prepared to move that as your original motion?

MR. GLADSTONE: Yes, I would say so.

MR. REM: Before the motion is put I wonder if I could raise one question. Coming from British Columbia I may say there is a question that has been raised that credit is being given to certain provinces for the suggestions that have come before the committee. In view of the fact that twelve of the same type have been sent into the committee I think note should be taken that no one place and no one person has the distinction of sending in the flag that is being adopted by this committee.

MR. SMITH: Hear, hear; let us take what credit we can ourselves.



Mr. MacNICOL: It is quite evident from the flag that you have submitted that no one can claim having designed it. It is the product of the committee.

Mr. REID: I want that brought out clearly.

Mr. MacNICOL: It is the product of the committee.

Mr. REID: No individual and no province. It is this committee which has chosen the flag.

The CHAIRMAN: It is quite true there were approximately ten designs somewhat like the one under discussion, but in the report which I propose to submit to you in a moment there is a definite statement that will cover the point you have in mind.

The CHAIRMAN: Are you ready, Mr. Gladstone?

Mr. GLADSTONE: Mr. Chairman, we have had many meetings since I proposed my original motion relative to a national flag for Canada, and after careful consideration at various meetings the subcommittee has reached a unanimous report as to a recommendation; and I would now move:—

That this committee recommend that the national flag of Canada should be the Canadian red ensign with a maple leaf in autumn golden colours in a bordered background of white replacing the coat of arms in the fly the whole design to be so proportioned that the size and position of the maple leaf in relation to the Union Jack in the Canton will identify it as a symbol distinctive of Canada as a nation.

The CHAIRMAN: Those in favour please indicate?

I declare the motion carried by a vote of 23 to 1.

And now, will somebody please move that the expenditures incurred at our last meeting in connection with the flag be authorized?

Mr. ZAPLITNY: Do I understand, Mr. Chairman, that we are adopting this design at this point? And are we going to have an opportunity of having this flag constructed and placed on display? I do not know just what the phraseology of the motion means. I could appreciate it better if I saw the flag.

The CHAIRMAN: Will you wait a minute until the report stage is reached?

All those in favour of the motion to pay these expenditures?

Carried.

Mr. MacNICOL: I would move that we report to the House at the earliest possible moment.

The CHAIRMAN: Is there any public business to be dealt with before we go on with our report? If not, I will ask all strangers to retire.

(The committee proceeded to a study of its report in camera.)















